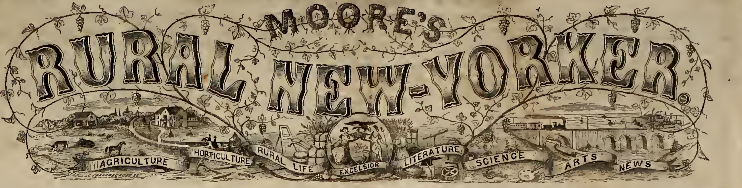
MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.



TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.] "PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT." [SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.

VOL. XII. NO. 19.} ROCHESTER, N. Y.,—FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1861. {WHOLE NO. 591.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY
AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY JOURNAL.

CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,
With an Able Corps of Assistants and Contributors.

The Rural New-Yorker is designed to be unsurpassed in Value, Purity, Usefulness and Variety of Contents, and unique and beautiful in Appearance. Its Conductor devotes his personal attention to the supervision of its various departments, and earnestly labors to render the Rural an eminently Reliable Guide on all the important Practical, Scientific and other Subjects intimately connected with the business of those whose interests it zealously advocates. As a Family Journal it is eminently Instructive and Entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the Hearts and Homes of people of intelligence, taste and discrimination. It embraces more Agricultural, Horticultural, Scientific, Educational, Literary and News Matter, interspersed with appropriate and beautiful Engravings, than any other journal,—rendering it the most complete Agricultural, Literary and Family Newspaper in America.

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AGRICULTURAL.

MANAGEMENT OF PASTURES.

In the Transactions of the Highland Horticultural Society of Scotland, we find an interesting article on the top-dressing and general management of pastures, by James Porter, which we have perused with satisfaction, and now give the substance to our readers. It is an important subject to American farmers,—one which we have before urged upon their attention, and notwithstanding difference in climate, &c., the experience of this Scotch farmer cannot be studied and tested without profit.

"When land under cultivation is in a high state of fertility, and is carefully sown with a full and well-selected mixture of grass seeds, it will often produce good grass for several years without any additional manure. This is so far fortunate for the cultivator of the land; for if the wide extent of arable land in pastures had to be regularly top-dressed in rotation, the system would be very laborious and costly. I do not wish it to be understood, however, that manure will not pay on this description of land; on the contrary, when soil and climate and other circumstances are favorable, I have found a good dressing of light manures to the first and second year's grass prove very remunerative. After varied and numerous trials, for many years, of a great variety of artificial manures, I have come to the conclusion that guano, sulphate of ammonia, nitrate of soda, and soot, are the best light dressings for new grass that can be applied. The large proportion of nitrogen which these contain in a state easily assimilated by plants, by its great power in developing the blade, makes such manures peculiarly suitable for the growth of young grass. To render these manures fully efficient, however, it is very desirable that they be sown in rainy weather. It is needless to add that if the manures be not quite genuine, a partial failure must be the result.

"On light land, with a gravelly subsoil, I consider it a mistake to use these manures as a top-dressing to grass, for when applied to such I have seldom seen them do much good; and in an unusually dry season, I think they can by no means be beneficial. For such soils I would prefer well-made compost of bones, urine, vegetable mold, and salt. When near the sea, I have used a compost of sea-weed and fish refuse, &c., in the following proportions:—Say 12 loads of mold, 4 loads of sea-weed, 1 load of fish refuse, and 2 tuns of cattle urine. This makes an excellent and substantial dressing for one acre of light land. When it is laid on during the winter months, its good effects on the grass in spring are all but certain; and within a short distance of the sea-coast it may be supplied for about 28s an acre.

"So much for the manuring. I shall now state a few facts which I believe to be important regarding the management of these pastures. Heavy rolling in autumn and spring, when the land is moderately damp, does much good; for, besides making a smooth surface, it packs the soil about the plants, and tends to make them spread laterally, and form a closer sward. Frequently changing or shifting the stock on the grass, and having it well eaten down at proper periods, but not too bare, are the best means of keeping the pasture in a good and growing state. It is always bad management to allow the grass to run to seed, seeing that it weakens the vigor of the roots, and tends much to exhaust the soil. It is, in particular, absolutely necessary that all weeds be cut early in the season. Whenever, indeed, they show their tops above the ground, they should be cut a little under the surface of the grass with a sharp tool, by which process the sap vessels of the plant are left open, so as to bleed profusely, and also admit the rains, which all tend considerably to destroy the roots. It is, at the same time, desirable to keep the surface smooth, by spreading the mole-heaps and droppings of the cattle; for by attention to these simple operations, the luxuriance of grass lands is always much increased."

For the destruction of moss and the general improvement of permanent pastures, a series of experiments were tried on land that had been laid down, and that had become almost worthless. Lime, farm-yard dung, Peruvian guano, nitrate of soda, sulphate of ammonia, superphosphate of lime, sulphate of potash, were tried, each acre receiving a dressing of manure of the value of about $10. The Peruvian guano and the sulphate of ammonia were the only manures that caused an increase of crop the first year sufficient to pay cost. The extreme dry season was unfavorable to the experiment. Mr. P. says:

"On some of the plots the extra produce of hay will do little more than pay the cost, while in others the price of the manures is nearly altogether lost. It must also be borne in mind that the soil is good, and well sheltered from the drouth; otherwise the results might have been still worse than they are. The saline manures, it is to be expected, will do little, if any, good next year. The second crop of grass looks a little more fresh after them, but they have done little indeed in extirpating the moss. The dung and the compost will, no doubt, be more permanent: the latter, in particular, appears to have already done a good deal in destroying the moss. The lime was against, rather than in favor of the hay crop; but at present (20th October) its good effects upon the pasture are becoming quite apparent—the moss is considerably decayed, and the surface already feels much firmer to the foot; the white clover is beginning to sprout up thickly, and the whole surface appears greener and feels firmer than that of any of the other plots. The effects, it is to be expected, will gradually become more visible as the lime sinks into the soil; and I have little doubt that, in the course of a year or two, its beneficial effects will be far more apparent. For this description of pasture land, particularly where the soil is rich in vegetable matter, and inclined to clay, powdered lime has the most powerful effect in renovating the grass, of any substance I have ever tried. It at once cleans the surface, kills insects, decomposes decaying vegetable matter, and raises a close sward of sweet, nutritive grasses, including considerable [illegible] white clover, and cattle will prefer the grass growing on the limed land. Light dressings, and repeated when necessary, is, perhaps, the best way to apply lime. I found two tuns an acre to be perfectly sufficient; and the autumn or winter months will, no doubt, be the best time for applying it to the land. Where the land is much infested with moss, it will not, perhaps, extirpate it entirely, but it destroys it more than any other manure I have tried, and thereby prevents its choking the grasses—at least for a good many years after. It is quite clear that mossy pastures should be well torn on the surface before spreading on manures of any description, which would allow them to be better covered from the action of the weather, and give them a much better chance of destroying the moss."

The plots experimented with were harrowed before the application of the manures, but a better machine than the common harrow, for scraping grass land, is much needed, and the attention of manufacturers of agricultural implements is called to this want. The results of the experiments are thus summed up:

1. On strong soils on lands under cultivation, guano, sulphate of ammonia, nitrate of soda, and soot are the best, and they will prove remunerative if the weather is not too dry.

2. On light soils in alternate husbandry, composts of earth, bone dust, cattle urine, salt, sea-weed, and fish refuse are the most suitable.

3. For old grass on strong soils, powdered lime is the most efficacious dressing that can be applied.

4. For old grass on light gravelly soils, clayey compost, mixed with quicklime, bone dust, and salt, makes a good dressing, and peat and wood ashes produce an excellent effect. Should all these fail to make good pasturage, then certainly it ought to be plowed up.

We are told by Professor Johnston that the bones of the sheep contain 70 per cent. phosphate of lime; and that a milch cow carries off annually 30 pounds of bone dust from the land; and if this waste is to be supplied, as it certainly ought, there can be no better way of doing it than by adding bones, lime, and other phosphatic manures to the land. Let our grazing lands, then, be liberally dressed, where necessary, with these manures, and we shall have abundance of grass.

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INQUIRIES AND NOTES.

Jaundice in Horses.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—As your paper is the fount of knowledge to apply to when in trouble, I come for a share. I have a two-year old colt, and two weeks since, on going to the barn, found it could not get up, and has not got up since that time without help. Its hind legs were swelled from the hock down to the fetlock, but the swelling has pretty much disappeared. It is very dull and stupid; when lying down, frequently stretches its legs out, and seems in some considerable pain. It eats well. I think it a case of jaundice, but don't know. Now, the query is, what ails my colt, and what will cure it?—H. McK., *Tioga Valley, Pa.*

Certain of the symptoms indicated attend an attack of jaundice, while there are others mentioned, (more especially the fact that the colt eats well,) which do not usually accompany that complaint. We will give a description of the appearance of a horse laboring under this disease, and our inquirer can then fully determine whether he is right in his views relative to the nature of the difficulty.

Symptoms.—Yellowness of the eyes, mouth, and of the skin where it is not coated with hair, mark this disease very plainly. The solid excrements are small and hard, urine highly colored, the animal languid, and the appetite poor. Where the horse has suffered for a considerable time without relief, he becomes dull, heavy, and stupid. Youatt says that a lameness of the right fore leg, similar to that exhibited in the shoulder of a human being when the liver is diseased, is a characteristic.

Causes and Treatment.—Jaundice is sometimes caused by sympathy of the liver with some other diseased part, and the removal of that disease will work the necessary cure. Spooner remarks that it very seldom occurs unconnected with inflammation of the liver; and if there be no other apparent disease, an endeavor to restore the natural passage of the bile by purgatives may be tried, given in *small doses* until the bowels are fairly opened. Youatt recommends bleeding, regulated according to the degree of inflammation, and the occasional stupor of the animal. Plenty of water, slightly warmed, or thin gruel, should be given. The horse should be warmly clothed, and the stable well ventilated, but not cold. Carrots, or other green food, will prove beneficial. If the purging, when once excited, should be violent, unless the horse is very weak, or inflammation is exhibited in connection, it need not be hastily stopped. When recovering from jaundice, a few simple tonics may be given with good results.

Dr. Jennings thinks this disease depends upon an obstruction of the biliary excretions, causing a yellow discoloration of the mucous membrane, fat, ligaments, and other tissues of the body; and it will be found in connection with other diseases than distinct and independent of them, although it does occasion- [illegible] the symptoms of which are not at first observed by the horseman on account of their obscurity. In the treatment of this disease, Dr. J. says the principal reliance is upon calomel; two drachms of which made into a bolus with flax seed meal and molasses should be given, followed in twenty-four hours by a purging ball. The animal should have moderate exercise daily; his body should be kept warm; and if there be pain in the right side, apply a blister; if necessary, the calomel may be repeated in scruple doses once a week.

Treatment and Application of Manure.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—Will some of your correspondents please to answer the following questions, and oblige a friend of Progress and Improvement:

1st. Is it best to draw out manure as fast as it is made through the winter, or keep it till just before sowing? Is it true, as stated by Liebig, that manure, by being hauled out in the fields and exposed to the rains, loses its most valuable properties? Does not the soil catch and retain them?

2d. What is the best way of saving the urine of the stables, swinery, &c.? Would it be best to collect it in vats, or absorb it in muck, sawdust, &c.?

3d. Where several kinds of manure are to be applied to a piece of land, should they be thoroughly mixed and composted, and allowed to rot before applying, or would it be as well to put them on separately, and mix them in the soil?

4th. Where can a machine be obtained for making drain tile?—Querist.

1st. Manure hauled on the field in the winter, and placed in small piles convenient for spreading, will receive but little injury, as fermentation will not progress during cold weather. In some situations, as on a hill side, a portion would be washed away during heavy rains.

2d. Making of vats is expensive, and the application of liquid manure is troublesome unless the proper conveniences are prepared for the purpose. That it would pay in the end for the farmer to expend the necessary means for liquid manure carts, &c., we fully believe, and the system will be gradually adopted. Farmers should begin to try it on a small scale, and note the results. On this and some other matters, we are all prepared to learn, while few are prepared to teach. But most of our liquid manure can be saved by the use of muck, sawdust, and other absorbents, and applied to the land without expense.

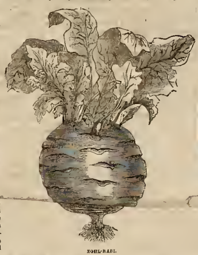
3d. As a general rule, the mixture of manures is best, as it makes our manure more uniform in quality. Strong and rapidly fermenting manures are also preserved from decay and loss by being mixed with that which is of slow decomposition, while the latter is benefited, and its decomposition hastened by the warmer and more active manure. No one should keep over manure all the summer for the sake of mixing or fermenting. Give all to the soil at planting time, and then start fair for a big pile in the autumn. Much manure is injured and about destroyed by composting, especially during the summer. Stable manure placed in holes will lose its most valuable properties by fermentation, and will in many cases be burnt up, unless large quantities of muck, earth, or other substances, be mixed with it to retard decomposition. By putting two or three kinds of manure together, or earth with manure, we create nothing. Each contains all the elements of fertility separate that they have when united. The object of the union it must be remembered is to prevent the loss of the most volatile and valuable parts of the more highly concentrated of these manures; also to bring them to a condition to be conveniently used, and in a state fit for the food of plants.

4th. This question we cannot answer. Those who manufacture such things should keep the public informed of their doings.

Kohl-Rabi for Stock.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—There is now some talk about a vegetable, new to us, as being valuable for stock, as good or better than the turnip, more sure of a crop, and more easily grown. What is your opinion about it, and where can the seed be obtained?—T. H. H., *Urbana, Ill.*

Our correspondent will find an article on this subject in the last number. We have for several years spoken favorably of this root, believing that it is much better adapted to our country than the turnip; indeed, we consider it exactly suited to our extremely hot and dry seasons. It will bear transplanting better than a cabbage,—in fact, there is scarcely a weed less affected by removal, and as insects trouble it very little, and with us have never injured it in the least, while turnips in the adjoining lot have been destroyed, we consider a crop certain. We are anxious that farmers should give the *Kohl-Rabi* a trial. The seed is cheap, and can be obtained at the seed stores in Rochester, and we presume at most other places. The plant when growing looks something like a cross between a cabbage and a turnip. Our engraving will give a very good idea of its appearance.


KOHL-RABI.

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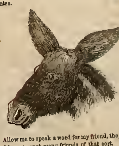
ASSES, MULES, AND OTHER CATTLE.

In China, farm labor is performed mainly by *men*, because teams consume too much food. It is calculated that one horse will require as much food as ten men. *Men* being plenty in China, *horses* are at a discount.

The enormous consumption of food by the *teams* of this country, is a subject for serious apprehension. I know many men who live on a short allowance, and devote their energies of body and mind to the feeding of a pair of horses. Many who raise large crops of corn, oats, and hay, find a market more strictly "*domestic*" than even a "protectionist" would insist upon. What can be done to lighten the burdens which *we*—not the teams—have to carry? *Steam*, I apprehend, belongs to the distant future,—"Cruiser" obeys, but no Rarey has yet coaxed *steam* into the diversified labors of the farm! The spade and the wheelbarrow may do for China and for Britain,—we have not too many men, especially during the war,—so brute work must be done by brutes.



Allow me to speak a word for my friend, the *jackass*—I have a great many friends of that sort. I speak now for the *genuine* article, that has suffered, it must be confessed, by being associated in men's minds with all sorts of lackadaisical people. I send you herewith a drawing of my friend, omitting the subordinate and immaterial parts.

You see that he is handsome, and grave, and wise; he is also musical and polite. He might not suit a *dandy*, but better men than you or I have rode on him, and may again. His relative, the *mule*, is not unknown to fame—many a man has found a grave who never would have *lived* to get one, if the hardy mule had not defied hunger, and cold, and weariness. When it becomes a question of life or death, on Western plains, and amid Alpine snows, men put their trust in mules—not horses. Their powers of endurance are well known. If, as is stated, a mule will perform the labor of a horse *on one-third less food* than the horse, the advantage of the mule is very manifest.

The raising of horses is very questionable just now, if *profits* are considered an object. I have heard that mules pay better, and would be glad if definite information on that point could be furnished by yourself or any of your correspondents. A neighbor, Mr. C. H. Walker, of Pearl Creek, Wyoming Co., has just brought in several jacks, and many are seeking information as to the policy of using them.—U. T. C.

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INDIAN CORN,—WHEAT,—MANURE, &c.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—I desire space through the columns of the Rural, to say a few words to your many readers upon an important subject. I have observed much in your paper in regard to the subject upon which I write, though much more to the point can yet be said. The corn and wheat crops are regarded by all of our citizens as the *sine qua non* of their happiness and prosperity. All others of the grain kind sink into insignificance when compared with these great staples of our country. Especially is this the view which the citizens of the great West take of the matter, who, when they—through their energetic efforts—are favored by Providence with an excellent and boundless yield of their corn and wheat crops, declare that they are in the possession of the *cornucopia*. From this, then, it is evident that every- [illegible] well as practiced, as they are *de facto* the indispensables of our country.

As the season of the year is at hand for farmers to select proper and suitable ground upon which to plant their corn, and sow their spring wheat, I desire to direct a few words to them for their mutual benefit. It is and has been the long-prevailing practice of farmers generally to convey their manure, early in the spring, upon one or two particular fields, which being plowed under, corn is planted thereon, or wheat sown. In such instances it is the common remark of farmers, that when the roots of the stalks get down into the manure, oh! how the corn or wheat will grow'—yet they seldom, if ever, have their predictions verified, as the manure has been plowed under to such a depth that the corn or wheat cannot possibly be benefitted thereby. Farmers generally are not aware of this great fact, yet it is nevertheless true, as all are willing to testify who have given it a fair trial.

But to my recommendation: Farmers, in selecting ground upon which to plant their corn or sow their wheat, should select that portion of their farms where they have conveyed their manure the year previous to the period of planting or sowing, as the manure has been plowed under and had time to rot thoroughly, and is now heaved to the surface, to nourish the corn and wheat to immediate and immense growth.

As regards the culture of winter wheat, which constitutes the greater portion of the wheat crop of our country, I desire to present to your readers two practical methods for its cultivation, which are especially adapted to land which is nearly exhausted by excessive tillage. The first is, after the wheat has been sown and well dragged in, to draw the manure and scatter it thinly over the field. The next is, after the wheat has been sown, to draw the manure, and after scattering it evenly over the field, drag the manure and wheat in together. To practice these methods, it is necessary that the manure should be fine, having thoroughly rotted. These methods are already beginning to be extensively practiced by many farmers throughout the country, and if prejudice could easily be obliterated, and the above plan adopted exclusively on that portion of our soil which has been under the plow for a quarter of a century or more, the soil would immediately return (because of the powerful strengthening qualities of the manure,) to its former yielding condition. But prejudice is not easily removed, and hence it is that we often hear the remark from the lips of apparently well informed agriculturists that, "if we should follow the directions or recommendations of *half* (say nothing of the whole,) which is published in our agricultural journals relative to farming, we might as well abandon farming altogether." As a matter of right and certainty, farmers should put their best judgment into requisition in conducting their own affairs; but should not, at the same time, consider their own private judgment on anything as superior to any one else's; or, be beyond taking advice on a practical point in agriculture.

But I am digressing. A few words as to the proper time of planting, sowing, &c. Spring wheat should be sown earlier than any other spring crop, for reasons which the readers of the Rural need not be reminded. Corn, in these Northern States, should be planted as early as the middle of the month of May, because the usual dampness of the weather and the early frost to which we are subject, render it

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generally unsafe to plant earlier or later than that period. As to the different species of corn, I refrain from making any remarks, being aware that each kind has its advocates, and that every farmer has his preferences.

Again; farmers are generally too sparse with their seed, especially corn. Let them put as many as eight or ten kernels in every hill, and proceed, after the corn is up finely through the field, and thin out, leaving four spears in every hill, and they will be amply rewarded for their trouble in so doing.

Manure should never be taken from the barn yard, or from the place where it has accumulated, in less than two years from the time of such accumulation. The reason for this is obvious. It allows the manure time to rot thoroughly, and thus destroys all the foul seeds which have gathered therein. Again, another remunerative method for the disposal of manure is to convey it on the field designated in the spring, prior to the time of planting or sowing, and the first season plow shallow, thus leaving the entire body of manure within four or six inches of the surface, so that the first crop sown thereon will receive nourishment therefrom. The next year, the ground should be plowed deep, so as to heave the entire body of last year's manure to the surface, which will greatly increase the amount of many subsequent crops.

North Wolcott, N. Y., 1861. E. McArthur.

PIGS AND OAT STRAW BEDDING.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—In a late number of your journal a correspondent, writing from Albion, N. Y., says he has heard of several farmers losing their pigs, when young, through using oat straw for bedding. I think the parties must have been mistaken as to the cause of the malady. Though I have no knowledge of the disease he speaks of, as affecting his own pigs, yet I do know that I have used a great deal of oat straw to bed pigs, both old and young, and as yet have not been troubled with any disease from that cause. Furthermore, I have, at the present time, two litters of pigs, aged two and three months, respectively, both of which litters, for want of pen room, were pigged in an oat straw stack, remained there until March 15th, and are now in a pen bedded down with oat straw. Notwithstanding they have had such a dose of oat straw, they would be hard to beat in my neighborhood. They are a mixed breed, got by crossing on various kinds, but they are good enough to make three hundred pounders when a year old. I raise considerable pork: sold last fall about two tuns, average weight 315 lbs., and this year, if nothing goes amiss, I shall have about four tuns to spare.

My way of feeding, and which I think the best of any means I have as yet used to fatten hogs, is to get the corn ground into fine meal, boil a lot of potatoes, put them in a large tub, and, while hot, mix in the corn meal, and mash all up together. The potatoes scald the meal, render it more digestible, and, at the same time, help to fatten the hogs better than potatoes alone. I use one bushel of meal to five of potatoes, well mixed together, and made into a thick swill for summer feed, mixing in all the spare milk from the dairy, then, as fall approaches, I begin to thicken the feed until it makes a thick pudding, at the same time increasing the quantity of meal. To finish off, for the last three weeks, I feed corn meal alone, when they are ready to kill, and give a good account of themselves.

If I do not have potatoes enough, I make use of mangel wurzel, carrots, pumpkins, or any thing of that description that I may have convenient. I find ling sows I prefer ground oats mixed with potatoes, as I think it gives more milk than the corn. I know that it does when fed to the cows in winter.

Roxbury, Dane Co., Wis., 1861. W. H. Cook.

WHAT AILED THE PIGS?

Messrs. Eds.:—I noticed, in No. 15 of the Rural, an inquiry made by Mr. L. H. Wilcox, of Napoli, N. Y., wishing to know what is the matter with his five months' old pigs, two of which are crippled in their feet so that they cannot walk, and the other shows symptoms of the same disease. I think the disease is caused by the mode of keeping and food. I have nine pigs of the same age, of the White Berkshire breed, introduced into this part of the country by Mr. James Gowen. They came on the 8th of November last. I took them from the sow when six weeks old, kept them in a dry and sheltered but airy pen during the cold of the winter, and supplied their nest abundantly with *rye straw*. They are fed very regularly with a slop made of warm water, sour milk, rye bran, a few boiled potatoes, and occasionally a few ears of corn. They are turned now in a field every morning after breakfast, but come home very regularly for their dinner and supper; and if it is not ready, they give due notice of their presence. Their live weight is about a hundred lbs. each, and they are so plump and sleek it makes a person feel good to look at them.

My opinion is, that if Mr. Wilcox should feed his pigs more sour slop, and not so much corn, keep them well bedded with rye straw, and none other, he might save his pigs yet. If they can run out, so much the better; if not, they ought to have as much charcoal as they want to eat, and twice a week give each one about a teaspoonful of sulphur mixed with their food, for at least three weeks.—Wm. Franck, *Kingston, Penn.*, 1861.

Mr. L. H. Wilcox complains in the Rural that his pigs are badly crippled, and wishes to know the cause. I raise a good many pigs every year, and always have first rate luck with them. My plan is to let them run about, unless they do considerable mischief. When I do shut them up, I put them in a large yard instead of a tight pen. If Mr. Wilcox will give his pigs more liberty, they will prosper better.—S. S. Read, *Kanona, N. Y.*, 1861.

WINTERING SHEEP.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—I am always interested in the experience of my brother farmers, as given in the Rural, and as I do not wish

> "To act upon that selfish plan,—
> Say little, and hear all I can,"

I will also contribute my mite of experience.

In the Rural of the 16th March, "Young Farmer" says he has fed 40 yearling sheep what hay they would eat, and a half bushel per day of oats and beans mixed, and yet they are running down.

My object is to "compare notes," for the benefit of whom it may concern. I have fed 40 lambs through the winter as follows:—Wheat straw twice a day and bean straw once, with a half bushel of oats and wheat bran (shorts) equal parts. Since the first of March I have substituted hay in part for the straw. They have been healthy, and are now in fine condition.

My old sheep have been fed on wheat straw, with a half pound of corn per day to each until March. They are also in good condition. My sheep have been fed three times a day—watered daily and properly sheltered.

From the statement of "Young Farmer," my sheep have been kept at much less expense than his, and are at the same time in much better condition. Did he not feed beans too heavily?

East Kendall, N. Y., 1861. A. Knifpen.

PLOWING GREEN SWARD.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—Every "Plow Jogger" may not know that green-sward can be turned flat, and good, with a stubble, or short-geared plow, yet it can be done, and it may be an advantage to some of your numerous readers to know *how* to do it. Simply by setting the coulter to the right, or off from land, about two inches more than the land side (which can be done by bending, or with wedges,) so that the plow-point will cut under and take out the earth, giving the right side of the next furrow slice a chance to settle, which makes it turn over easier than when left square down. The earth thus taken out adheres to the furrow, and is carried over with it, which serves to fill up the crevices between the furrows, and which prevents grass and weeds from coming up between them and furnishes good "free soil" with which to cover the hopeful farmer's seed.

Green sward, either tough or tender, can be plowed *well*, I venture to assert, with *any* short plow rigged in this way. Just try it before you ridicule the idea, as did a certain farmer his inventive wife's, when she seriously asked him, as he was about starting off to town for a new plow, if he couldn't plow with the *cart*. C. O. B.

Watertown, N. Y., 1861.

The Bee-Keeper.

Moldy Combs.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker.—I have just found moldy combs in my bee-hives. Can you, or some of your subscribers, tell me what to do?—William J. Edwards, *Niles, Mich.*, 1861.

If the comb is only a little moldy, the bees will take care of it, and clean it up when fine weather comes. If quite bad, wash the comb in sharp vinegar, rinse it well in several waters, and return it to the hive. If the comb is partially destroyed by the mold, then cut it out.

Straw Bee Hives.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—I noticed, in a late number of your valuable paper, an article on Straw Bee Hives, and their superiority over those made of wood, and having thought, myself, that bees in straw hives usually swarm earlier than others, I constructed one last spring, and transferred a stock from one of my Movable Comb Hives to it, and so far am well pleased with it, it being as convenient and well adapted to the use of frames as one made of wood.

Below is a description. It seems necessary, in making such a hive, that we have something besides the straw to support the weight of the combs and frames,—a kind of frame work which will keep the straw in place, &c.

This frame work of wood is made as follows: Two side pieces 16½ inches long, 2 inches wide, and 1 inch thick; two ends, 13½ inches long, 2 inches wide, and 1 inch thick; these to be nailed together, making a frame or hoop 14½ by 13½ inches—2 inches deep, inside measure. This is for the bottom of [illegible] which are rabbeted out on the inside upper corner, half an inch square, for the frames to rest upon. Small strips may be nailed to this part for handles, or, which is better, a strip one inch square may be put entirely around it, half an inch down from the upper edge, for the top or cover to rest upon, instead of on the honey board, as some make them.

Then get out four pieces hard wood 12½ inches long, 1½ inches wide, and ½ inch thick, for uprights or posts, and fasten them with screws to the sides of the bottom frame, one in each inside corner. Nail a strip of leather to the top edge of this frame, to fasten the first roll of straw to; then commence putting on straw, being careful, in turning corners, not to draw it too tight. Fill up eight and a half inches with straw; then put on the top frame or hoop, press it down so that the whole depth will be twelve and a quarter inches, and fasten with screws like bottom, and it is done. The top and honey board are made of wood, like other hives.

This makes a hive deeper than some recommend, but I think it is better adapted to our long cold winters than one made long from front to rear, and not as deep. This is my experience—perhaps others find it different. J. D. Goodrich.

East Hardwick, Cal. Co., Vt.

Artificial Swarming.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—Noticing in your issue of the 30th ultimo certain extracts from "a paper read before the Dubuque (Iowa) Farmers' Club, by one John King, Esq., on the Culture of Bees," and fearing some inexperienced *new beginner might* be misled by that portion of it referring to artificial swarming, and hazard the ultimate loss of his bees by following the directions there pointed out, shall be my only apology for the following article.

The extract referred to says:—"Take an empty hive and set by the side of one about ready to swarm; lift three or four cards, one of which must be stocked with brood comb, or eggs; place them, with the bees attached, into the empty one, *removing the old hive to a new location*, and putting the *new* one in its place," &c., &c.

Now, let us look at it a moment, and see whether it is a success, as stated, or not; and it will be of the first importance that we bear in mind *the fact*—conceded by *all* well-informed bee-keepers of the present day—that A SWARM OF BEES DESTITUTE OF A QUEEN BUILD ONLY "STORE," OR DRONE COMB. If it be true that the new swarm will, in a few hours, be the *stronger one*, (which is not doubted), in point of numbers, the *proof* that bees can be thus "easily and rapidly multiplied," is not so clear. "And why not?" Because *either the old or the new swarm is now destitute of a fertile queen, and will fill up the vacant space in their hive with drone comb—comb in which worker bees are never reared, and consequently* WORSE THAN USELESS! If the writer of the article referred to had told us to *to take the queen also*, when we transferred the combs, he would have insured the prosperity of the *new* colony; but why the *old stock* would be in as good or better condition than if left to swarm in the natural way, it is difficult to conjecture.

If preventing loss of swarms by flight to the woods were the only object to be secured, *that* might be more easily and *certainly* accomplished by *clipping the wings of the queens*. This can be *safely* done at the time of hiving a *first swarm*, and as soon as young brood is found in all *after swarms*. The latter expedient should not be resorted to, however, except by such as propose to *practice artificial swarming*, since otherwise the liability of loss of queens the following season, while attempting to lead out swarms, would have to be guarded against.

Artificial Swarming of Bees, if scientifically practiced, is a decided advance upon the natural method of increase, in EVERY respect; one of which is that *all swarms are provided with fertile queens at all times*, and hence are *constantly increasing in numbers*. Whereas the *old stock*, after the issue of a first swarm of the current year, is destitute of a fertile queen for at least twenty days, consequently an interval equal thereto always transpires, during which no additions to the stock of worker-bees is made!

If any one doubts this, and has nothing but the old box hive, or hollow log, on which to experiment, let such rear a queen, artificially, by any one of the many well known methods, so as to have her on hand. And when his first swarm issues, let him take the queen he has provided, and place her in the hive the old queen and swarm have left, and he will soon be convinced he has taken *one step* in the right direction.

But the Honey Bee is the creature of *system*, and the artificial propagator of queens, or swarms, should be provided with a HIVE suited to his purpose, as well as the KNOWLEDGE *of the instincts of that insect* necessary to insure complete success.

Grand Rapids, Mich., April, 1861. M. Metcalfe.

Production of Queens and Drones.

For the production of queens, the workers take the embryo larvæ in the royal cells, impregnate them with the semen of the drone, which they (that is, the worker,) lavishly convey to the royal cells for this purpose, and also for impregnating the ovary of *immature* queens, in order to give life to their progeny, the semen being conveyed in the peculiar food of the embryo queen, of which it (that is, the semen,) is a large ingredient, the *food* being received to support nature, the *semen*, as above stated.

The *Bee Journal*, of February, page 36, gives a chemical analysis of the royal jelly, by Dr. Dorkhoff, which he says contains *animal albumen* and *fibrine*. In his opinion, at least nine-tenths of the mess consists of these, which goes to confirm my theory, which was published in the Rural New-Yorker some year or more ago, in which I maintained that the so-called jelly is an *animal secretion*, which I consider drones' semen. Huber considered the jelly of sufficient vitality to impregnate or transform the worker larvæ to those of queens. The theory was based on the jelly being a vegetable compound, but it is now proved to be erroneous. I wish to submit to bee keepers, for solution, the following questions:

If it requires the drone's sperm, which is *animal secretion*, to be deposited in the queen's spermatheca in order to enable her to impregnate the drone eggs, so that they will produce the worker, which is a distinct bee in its physiology and propensities from that of the drone, does it not require the drone's semen to impregnate the worker larvæ, so that they may be transformed to queens, which are distinct in their physiology and propensities from workers? If it be true that workers and queens are *both* transformed, the former from *drone* larvæ and the latter from *worker* larvæ, by *animal secretion*, do or do not queens that are perfected from Italian eggs deposited in a common hive, receive a taint, together with their progeny, from the secretion or jelly of the common bee? From that bee and what part of the bee is this secretion obtained, possessing such transform- [illegible] and what is the difference, if any, from that found in the queen's spermatheca, or the drone's semen, when treated alike by analysis? To the scientific apiarian, the solution of the above questions will be of great importance in removing the difference of opinion in reference to the direct cause of the reproduction of queens and drones, and explain the object of the drones in taking flight together. It would also make known the cause of the different grades of hybrids between the common and the Italian bee. If we get the rudiments correct, what is now considered as mysterious will be made plain, and we can see the wisdom of the Author of Nature in that wonderful insect, the honey bee, in their instinctive habits and peculiarities in the reproduction of their race. E. Kirby.

April, 1861.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Sowing Sorghum Seed.

A writer in the *Prairie Farmer* says, from experiments made last spring, he learned that the seed should be scalded before planting. One of the greatest difficulties in the cultivation of the cane, has been the fact that it required three to four weeks after planting before it was large enough to be readily distinguished from grass, during which time the weeds generally become so large as to render its cultivation difficult. This difficulty can be obviated in a great measure by scalding the seed with hot water, letting it stand in the water ten or twelve hours, then pour the water off and let it stand in a tight vessel in a warm place three or four days, till it has sprouted; then plant on newly prepared land, and it will come up as soon as corn, or some ten days sooner than it would if not scalded. It should be planted at the commencement of the corn-planting season, on very rich, warm land, a sandy soil, and should be well cultivated with the shovel-plow and the hoe.

Cutting and Feeding Corn Stalks.

A writer in the *Country Gentleman* gives his views upon the economy of cutting corn stalks with a machine for feeding cattle, in the following manner:

"Having no interest in the sale of any corn-stalk cutters, and having had some experience in the use of them and feeding of the stalks, I will tell a little of my experience. I procured a stalk cutter several years ago, with the intention of cutting up all of my stalks for my stock, thinking in this way to economize; but after having given it a fair trial, I have come to the conclusion that it is a perfect absurdity to think of sustaining life in an animal by feeding him upon such a dried mass of pulp as cornstalks are composed of.

"I have heard quite a number of farmers in this vicinity say they have succeeded admirably in making their cattle eat cornstalks, butts and all; but upon close investigation, I find the attempt is complete loss of time, labor and meal, where any is used. I have tried them cut, smashed, wet, dry, raw and boiled, but all to no purpose. I would as soon feed my cattle a bushel basketful of chips and bark; they would answer the purpose of filling up very well, while the same amount of meal would keep them in full as good condition.

"I do not think it profitable to waste time with corn stalks in any other way than to spread them about the barn-yard, and let the cattle eat what leaves they will, then rake them up and put them in some wet hole to rot for another year. Those who profess to feed nothing else but corn stalks, have in the first place to starve them to it, and even then they look, in the spring, as though they had not sufficient strength to walk from the barn-yard to the pasture lot. I have some faith in sowed corn stalks, if gathered in season, when full of sap, well cured and well cared for, with plenty of meal. I think it poor economy to starve cattle to a thing they dislike, or to stint them on a thing they do like."

Pasture Grasses.

"A Dairyman" writes his experience to the *Somerset Farmer*, in Skowhegan, Maine, as follows: I am more than ever convinced that in order to derive the greatest possible profit from our dairy stock, we must be more particular in furnishing suitable food in our pasture grounds. To produce good butter, the feed should consist of succulent and saccharine grasses, such, for instance, as timothy, clover, red and brown-top, and other similar grasses, *mixed*. If we lay down our lands with red clover and timothy, the white clover, the sweet vernal and other varieties of fine grass, come in either the second or third year, and make a fine pasture, which endures for many seasons, the grasses annually becoming finer and sweeter, but less vigorous, till they disappear. I deem the labor of plowing and re-seeding pasture lands a useless and profitless labor, as by annually top-dressing them with good and invigorating manure, we secure equally good results and at much less expense. No cow, no matter how superior may be her milking qualities, can produce a good dairy article if her daily food be uncongenial and innutritive. However much may depend upon the processes and manipulations of the dairy women, the relation existing between good feed and good butter and good cheese, is much more intimate than many are inclined to suppose. The sweeter the feed, the sweeter and richer in character will be the milk which is elaborated from it, and the butter made from it excel precisely in the same ratio that the feed excels, provided it is manufactured in the same way.

Hungarian Grass.

James D. Ladd, in *Field Notes*, thus gives his experience with Hungarian Grass:

"In 1859 I sowed two bushels of Hungarian grass seed on about three acres of ground, the soil a moist, black loam, was a sward which had not been broken for five years. Sowed in May, harvested in August, cut it with a cradle, let it lay in swath two days, and then bound and shocked like oats; in a few days hauled it into the barn without rain. The following winter I fed the most of it to colts and brood mares, and some little to work horses and a pair of working mules. We fed all two years old and upward, four sheaves per day per head; yearlings three sheaves to two; they did well on it, no diuretic effect observable. Last year we raised about the same amount, and fed in like manner, with satisfactory results.

"In the early part of the past winter we were feeding our colts as much good hay, clover and timothy mixed, as they would eat, with four ears of corn per head per day, when we changed it to four sheaves of Hungarian per head per day, and in ten days they looked perceptibly better, although they were doing quite well. After thus feeding a few weeks, we changed to bright sheaf oats, that had been harvested without rain, and gave it to them in the same quantity per day. We thought they did not do quite so well as upon the Hungarian."

There is much [illegible] consideration in the following brief extract from the *American Agriculturist*

Multitudes are contemplating a move, *somewhere*, just at present, or as soon as they can sell out, reckless of the old maxim, "A rolling stone gathers no moss." They have got their farms cleared up, and taken a few crops from the virgin soil, or they are situated upon the old homestead, with a hundred acres of poor, hard cropped land. They have good neighbors, good schools, and good markets; but they are not making money so fast as they wish to, and mean to try their fortunes in a new place. If a man is already settled, and has pleasant associations around him, the probability is that he will lose money by moving. If there is nothing else wrong but the land, pluck and industry will bring that right. There may be more wealth in the old farm than its owner dreams, and a better management may enable him to unlock its treasures.

Perhaps deeper plowing is needed to break up the hard-pan, formed by running the plow-nose four inches below the surface for a century. *Perhaps* two-thirds of the manure is wasted, and there may be a loud call to stop the leaks. *Perhaps* the cattle are foddered at the stack all winter, and there is a dead loss, in the extra consumption of hay, of ten dollars for every head of stock. *Perhaps* the best part of the farm is still under water for half the year, and it only needs a little draining to turn a waste into a fruitful meadow.

A few changes of this kind in the management of a farm make all the difference between success and failure, riches and poverty. As a rule, it is much better for a farmer to change his management than to change his location. We have observed many of the latter kind of changes, and seldom found them profitable; but the other kind pay well. Our advice, then, is to drive down the stakes a little deeper where you are, and persevere until you conquer. Such a conquest is glorious. We had rather take such a man by the hand than the Governor of State, or a Member of Congress. He has the stuff in him to rule an empire; for, as a successful farmer, he has already conquered a small one.

Inquiries and Answers.

Cancer on Horses.—Will you, or some of the numerous readers of the Rural, please inform me as to a cure for cancer on a horse?—A Subscriber, *Morgan Co., Ohio*, 1861.

What Ails my Lambs?—I wish to know, through the columns of the Rural, what it is ails my lambs? And, first, I will state how my sheep have been kept during the winter. I have twenty-six, and they have been fed good hay twice daily, and corn twelve quarts once a day. The lambs, when dropped, are so weak that they cannot stand, and most of them have a bunch on the under side of the neck. I cannot better describe it than by saying it looks and feels as though they had tried to swallow an egg, and it had lodged in the throat. Some have one and some two bunches. It appears to be hard work for them to swallow. I have lost most all of them. Some say my sheep are too fat. We had some the same way a few years ago, and thought it was feeding oats, since then have fed corn, and had no such lambs, but it can not be feeding oats, for I have not fed any. Will some of your correspondents inform me the trouble, and greatly oblige—A Constant Reader, *Cass Co., Mich.*, 1861.

Hollow Horn.—I saw, in a former number of the Rural, an article requesting a remedy for hollow horn, and as I have an ox that had it a little more than a year ago, after doing a severe winter's work, I will tell what I did for him. I took half a pint of vinegar; two tablespoonfuls of salt; one teaspoonful of pepper; mixed, and poured into each ear, holding the head over on one side a moment or two. I took this from a book. It may be barbarous, but nevertheless a cure.—G. R. Love, *Spring Grove, Iowa*, 1861.

Rural Notes and Items.

The Season.—In our last number, after speaking of the unfavorable weather of April, we remarked—"May will be gladly welcomed, in the hope that it will bring clearer skies and more genial atmosphere—weather which will yet enable farmers, by extra effort, to sow and plant in season to obtain good returns in autumn." When we thus wrote, on the last day of April, we little thought the *to be* gladly-welcomed May would open, as it did, with a severe snow storm and freezing weather, again checking out-door operations and postponing the long-hoped for Spring temperature. Several inches of snow fell on the first of May, and the next morning ice half an inch thick, and icicles a foot long, were discovered without the aid of magnifiers. It is May, according to the almanac, but up to this 7th day, the temperature has been more like March. A cold rain storm, with unusually high winds, yesterday, reminded us of the "Ides of November." We shall not, therefore, indulge in any sanguine hopes or reckless prophecies as to the future—for the season seems to be as disjointed as the Union. Trust farmers will not *secede* in despair, but soon be able to *see seed* on ground fit for its reception. And when that time does arrive, every cultivator should do his utmost to produce larger crops than ever before—thus aiding the nation in its struggle for existence, and subserving his own interest.

The Rural in War Times.—Though the political and other papers which devote most of their space to the exciting news of the day, are sought and read with eagerness by all classes, those journals which combine practical and useful topics are not neglected by the discriminating portion of community. So we infer from the progress of the Rural during the past few weeks. Were it not for the scarcity of money, caused mainly by the derangement of the currency of the Western States, we think our receipts would prove larger during the present Spring than for the corresponding period of any previous year—for the paper is apparently more desired, and giving better satisfaction. But many who wish the Rural, especially at the West, are unable to obtain the wherewithal to remit—most of the local currency being greatly depreciated at present. Almost every mail brings us letters stating that the scarcity of money, or the impossibility of obtaining that which is good, alone prevents accessions to our subscription. Of course we must suffer from this state of things, yet shall endeavor to make the paper as valuable and interesting as ever. Indeed, we hope to make it more acceptable now than formerly, by giving, in addition to the usual variety of Practical and Miscellaneous matter, a complete synopsis of the News of the Day—so that every one who preserves a file of our present volume will possess a record of the Events of the War for the Union, aside from much other matter of permanent interest and value. Thousands of our subscribers carefully file the Rural, and we know that many will not sell former volumes at cost. On this point (and as to the Rural in these times,) we will quote a few words from an agent-friend in Taber Co., Iowa—Mr. S. H. West. He writes:—"I am doing, as I ever stand ready to do, the best I can for the Rural. Even now, though I have perused thoroughly the pages of the eleventh volume, as it lays before me complete, $2 would not tempt me to part with it. Although our political papers are flooded with interesting and exciting intelligence, yet the Rural retains its position in our affections."

— In this connection, attention is directed to the offer, on another page, of the back numbers of this year to all who subscribe for the remainder of the volume. We are daily receiving $2 for the volume, but having an extra supply of back numbers, have concluded to *give them* to those who subscribe for the remainder of the year. Will not ALL OUR READERS—Subscribers as well as Agents—kindly make this offer known to their friends, and aid in procuring Volunteers for the Rural's Brigade?

N. Y. State Ag. Society.—At a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of this Society, held at Watertown, the grounds offered by the citizens of that place for the next State Fair were examined, found well adapted for the purpose, and accepted. They comprise the grounds of the County Society, and the adjacent horse [illegible] sufficient buildings to answer in part the requirements of the State Society. The grounds are said to be less than a mile from the railroad station, and but little further from the central portion of the village.

— At the same meeting it was decided that the Trial of Farm Implements and Machines, which it had been proposed to hold in July or August, under the auspices of the Society, should be deferred on account of the present state of the country. It is announced, however, that all the implements named in the premium list, or selected by the Board for trial, will be examined and passed upon, if entered at the Annual Fair to be held at Watertown in September next, and suitable premiums and testimonials will be awarded to those which may be approved.

The Premium List for the Annual Fair (to be held at Watertown, Sept. 17—19,) is ready for distribution, and may be obtained by addressing the Secretary, B. P. Johnson, at Albany.

About Farmers' Clubs.—A correspondent in Oneida county inquires whether we know "of any Farmers' Club or Association formed not only to encourage the cultivation of fruits, flowers, vegetables, &c., but to have an agency in the society for the purchase of farming implements, or anything else the farmers wish, at wholesale prices." He has been trying to form such a club, and if one has been organized elsewhere, would like to know the result of the experiment. We are not aware of the existence of any club of the kind, but if any such is in operation among our parish of readers, we shall be glad to receive and impart information on the subject.

Sorghum Brooms.—The editor of the Delaware (Ohio) Gazette acknowledges the receipt of a sample of brooms made from Sorghum broom corn, and commends the same. In a note accompanying the sample, the manufacturer says "I send you a specimen of my premium parlor broom, manufactured from sorghum broom corn. This corn excels the common one hundred per cent. in yield of brush, and fifty per cent. in value in the Eastern markets. The fodder being of a saccharine flavor, it makes a nutritious and palatable food for all kinds of stock, especially milch cows. Its growth in height is not more than one half that of the common broom corn, and it does not impoverish the land so much by fifty per cent., and the brush can be harvested with one-half the labor."

Boiled Corn for Hogs.—Writing to the Prairie Farmer, Wm. Van Loon says that he has practiced feeding boiled corn to his stock and hogs, and is "satisfied that he saves one-half his grain, and gains as much more in time;" that one bushel of corn on the cob, boiled, will produce as much as two fed raw, and in one-half the time. In one experiment he fed three bushels of boiled corn per day to twenty-seven hogs, for ten days. The average gain was two pounds per day. He then fed the same lot of hogs on two bushels of raw corn per day, for twenty days—they gained a mere trifle over one pound per day. These were small, young hogs—larger ones would have fattened better.

To Head the Crows.—As the season for "scare crows" is at hand, the following (said to be a remedy against the depredations of crows and blackbirds, in the cornfield,) is in order:—"Take fine, plump seed corn—a quantity of it—string each kernel on a horse hair—white is best—tying a knot in it to prevent its slipping off. Scatter it over the field in spots where the birds will see it and alight. They will eat but one kernel of it, and will not trouble that field (or any other) again. The two ends of a horse hair sticking out of their mouths, well anchored in their craw by a fine kernel of corn, is by no means a pleasure to them."

Seasonable Advice.—A friend at Westfield, Mass., sends us the following timely suggestion to the farmers of the North: "*War and Famine.*—War is upon us, and no one can tell when it will end. To forestall a scarcity of provisions, which will be sure to follow, let farmers and all persons having arable land, plant as much as possible this spring. Plant double your usual amount of land over. Spring Rye and Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley, Beans, Buckwheat, and Potatoes, can still be planted."

HORTICULTURAL.

TO INCREASE THE SIZE OF FRUIT.

THERE are many ways of increasing the size of fruit known to horticulturists. Some of them are practical, and should always be observed by the fruit grower, such as pruning, thinning the fruit, &c., while others are more fanciful and will be performed only by the amateur. Among these are, moistening the fruit to promote swelling, a custom universally practiced by the growers of prize gooseberries in England; ringing the vine, &c. Prof. DUBREUIL, of France, in an article in the *Journal de l'Academie d'Horticulture de Grand*, points out some of the principal operations whereby the size of fruits may be increased:

1. Grafting the trees on a weak species of stock — for instance, the pear on the quince.

2. Pruning so as to deprive the tree of a certain portion of its shoots. By this means, the sap which would have been absorbed by the parts cut off, goes to increase the size of the fruit. Summer pruning, which has for its object the removal of a large number of shoots by disbudding and pinching, has the same effect.

3. Let the bearing shoots be as short as possible, and in immediate connection with the main branches. Fruit growing on the stem is always larger than that situated at the extremities of long, slender branches.

4. Thinning out the fruits when too numerous.

5. Shortening the principal branches at the winter pruning; and checking, in the summer, the vigorous shoots.

6. Supporting the fruits so that their weight may not become a strain upon the footstalk.

7. Moderating the amount of evaporation from the fruit. Fruits covered by leaves are larger than those on the same tree not shaded. It is necessary, however, in order that shading may not affect the quality of the fruit, to expose it when full grown to the direct action of the sun. To diminished evaporation must be attributed the considerable increase of size which always takes place to fruit introduced into bottles soon after it is set. The mouth of the bottle being closed after the portion of the branch with the young fruit is introduced, the latter is secluded from the dry action of the air, and is constantly surrounded with a moist, warm atmosphere, which keeps the epidermis pliable, and stimulates the growth of the tissues.

8. Moistening the fruit with a solution of sulphate of iron (copperas). One of Prof. D.'s pupils, by moistening an Easter Beurre pear, from the time it was fairly set, once a fortnight, obtained a fruit so large that it could scarcely be recognized.

9. Ringing the shoot or branch immediately below the flowers. This should be done when the flowers are opening; the longer it is delayed after this period, the less is the effect produced. The incision should penetrate to the wood, and the ring of bark removed should have a width equal to half the diameter of the shoot. The width, however, should not exceed one-fifth of an inch, otherwise the wood will not close up.

10. Inserting on vigorous trees fruit buds, with a portion of wood attached. A tree which in consequence of excessive vigor has never produced blossom buds, may by this means be made to produce fruit of large size, from the abundant supply of sap which the inserted blossom buds will receive. But it will be necessary to pinch the shoots of the tree in summer, which would otherwise absorb the larger portion of sap, to the injury of the fruit.

* * *

PRUNING FRUIT TREES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—What I may have to say concerning fruit and fruit growing, will pertain more particularly to Michigan. I shall say nothing that has not had the test of practice and personal experience, as I prefer leaving all fancy and theory to those who may have time and taste for them. But, notwithstanding, I shall speak practically of *Michigan* Horticulture or Pomology. Much that is true of one section is true of all, which is the case with pruning, for instance. A practice is in vogue, among many farmers, of pruning in March, and in fact I know of a *nurseryman* who has used up 20,000 trees by trimming at the wrong season of the year. May and June are the months for this business, no matter whether your trees be old or young. It is a good idea to "gum" all wounds made in removing limbs. But on trees large enough to bear, it *never* should be omitted. Common grafting wax that any one can readily make, is as good as anything for covering such wounds. A good article of grafting wax is made by boiling together beeswax, tallow, and rosin, in about equal quantities.

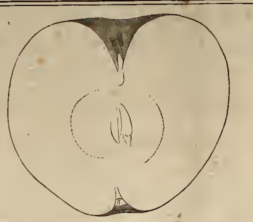
In pruning, some experience is a good thing; but good judgment is better, and essential. Which, where, and how much to cut out is the great thing. If pruning is done properly on small trees, but little will be needed ever after. Some varieties of apples and pears need little or no trimming. The Spitzenburgh and Northern Spy are types of the sorts referred to. The former needs but little, and the latter must have the knife used unsparingly.

A small tree will seem to be thin in the top, which, if left to grow, in years after will be found too full; and limbs will then have to be removed, thus making a large loss, which, had it been taken off when small, would now have been healed over, and the growth taken off would have been left in the trees and saved. In early trimming, therefore, reference must be had to the appearance the trees will have years hence. In pruning, never allow a tree to form a crotch. Such trees are liable to split as soon as they begin to bear. There are few fruit growers but have lost trees in this way. It is an easy thing to avoid, if looked to in time, and that time is when the tree is small, and is putting out its first limbs, that are eventually to form its head. Whatever is true of apple trees in this respects will apply as well to all sorts of fruit.

The height of the top from the ground is also determined by early pruning. You may have it as high or low as you please. The general practice now,—and it is the true one,—is to form the head low. They stand high winds better. The bodies are apt to be more healthful, the tree is more easily managed, and fruit gathered with less labor than on high tops. J. T. ELLIOTT.

Grand Rapids, Mich., 1861.

IN some sections evils may result from pruning in March or April, but we have never observed such results. We prune any time after the severe frosts of winter are past. We do not think the experience of fruit growers generally will furnish proof of evils from early spring pruning. The best composition we have ever used for wounds made by pruning, is gum shellac dissolved in alcohol, made about the thickness of common paint, and put on with a brush.



GREEN SWEET APPLE.

VERY fine specimens of the *Green Sweet Apple* were sent us last season from Indiana. The specimens were of large size. The tree is represented as hardy, productive, half-spreading, shoots rather slender, fruit exceedingly valuable for cooking and stock, and always fair. It succeeds best in a deep, rich, strong soil. In eating from December to March. It originated, we believe, in Indiana. The engraving we take from the Transactions of the American Pomological Society. The following description is from *Elliott's Fruit Grower's Guide*—*Fruit*, medium to large; *form*, roundish; *color*, dull greenish white or yellow, with greenish white, or sometimes pale russet dots; *stem*, varying; *cavity*, narrow, russeted; *calyx*, above medium size for the fruit, closed; *basin*, medium, slightly furrowed; *flesh*, greenish white, tender, juicy, and quite sweet; *core*, medium, round; *seeds*, ovate. *Season*, December to March. Grown in Indiana, it is large, has a brownish cheek, and matures in October and November.

APPLE TREES—BURSTING OF BARK.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—An inquiry came through the RURAL from R. L. ROSS, of C. W., respecting his young apple trees, their bursting the bark near the ground, and dying. This proceeds from one of two causes,—either early warm weather in the spring, the sap rising, and sudden changes to freezing; or they are scalded by the hot sun. If scalded, it will be all on the south or southwest side, near the ground, where the sun would strike it in the hottest part of the day, say from 10 to 2 o'clock. If caused by the early rising of the sap and sudden change to freezing, the bark will be affected all around the tree alike, and become loose, more or less, as high as the sap first started. It may leaf out, in a measure, but will soon wither and die. Cut open the bark, and it will smell like sour cider. The tree is about worthless, but a scalded tree is still more worthless, for only one side being effected, the occupant sets his wits to work to save it, and keeps the sickly thing along until it begins to yield some fruit, possibly before it is ready to tumble down. It leaves a good root full of sprouts, but the top and body are gone by the board, and labor with it, and the first cost added on is no small item.

Now, in order that the inquirer may get rid of the effect, the cause, whatever it may be, must be removed, or the effect will continue the same. Let him go to the same nursery where he got his first trees, and get trees just as near their age and condition as possible, and set them just as he set those he lost, and then stick four stakes around each tree, east, west, north, and south, five inches from the body, and then go to his currant bushes and cut the longest straight brush grown the year previous, and stick about two between each stake all around the tree, especially on the south side, and keep them trimmed up one foot from the bottom and on the inside around the body, to give a free circulation of air and not chafe the body. Stay the tops of the trees to these stakes, and keep the soil entirely clean from grass or weeds around the root within the circle. Just as winter is coming on, take the scrapings of the barnyard, or fine rich earth, and fill up around each tree as high as the currant brush is trimmed up, or if higher all the better. Let it be thickest on the south side, to hold the frost around the roots as long as possible, until spring has fairly set in. It will not only keep the sap from too early rising, but the mice from girdling it around the root, and when the currant bushes leaf out, the body is protected from being scalded by the hot sun. Trees are very seldom scalded as high as three feet. The stakes will keep off the whiffletrees, and currant brush added to them is a great barrier against sheep, should they break in.

Cultivate trees in this manner four or five years, until the rough bark begins to show itself freely at the bottom, and then begin to thin out the currant brush. Try this plan upon every other row, or every other tree, or one out of five or ten, and then notice the difference between those bodies shaded and those not shaded. If the inquirer has any doubts as to the above course, by the second or third year they will all be removed. The body shaded will present a dark, rich green, luxurious top, the fruit fair, and seldom, if any, sprouts at the bottom, the sap flowing all around the body alike into the top.

As quick as the frost is all out of the ground around the roots, spread out the manure outside of the circle. In selecting trees to set, get those that will branch four feet from the ground.

Young trees at the present day are grown on soil in a high state of cultivation, the bodies more or less shaded, the bark thin and tender; and when taken from the nurseries before being set, the top is trimmed off so the body stands wholly exposed to the sun, and should there be a heavy summer crop raised the first year where the trees are planted, all the worse. It would be up on us to shade the bodies before the hottest days come on, and all be at once taken away when the thermometer is ranging from 80 to 100 degrees or over. Thus the first time that the sun strikes in full the bodies of the trees, it is in the hottest days. Hence the disastrous effects.

Rome, N. Y., 1861. A SUBSCRIBER.

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GRAFTING OLD TREES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Inquiry has been made by C. W. TURNER of Dighton, with reference to the grafting of old trees. Having had long, and, I think, successful experience, in the cultivation and grafting of large bearing apple trees, I will give my mode of grafting.

In regard to the proportion of limbs which should be ingrafted, much will depend upon the way in which the trees have been pruned. If they have been suitably pruned before grafting, I should ingraft about one half of the number of bearing limbs, leaving the remainder for one year, which will preserve the vitality of the tree better than if all be removed. In grafting, care should be taken to select such limbs as will, when grafted, form a top of sufficient expansion for the body of the tree.

The next spring after grafting I would remove about one half of the remaining ungrafted limbs, and the spring following, about one half of those still remaining, and the third year after grafting take out all the natural limbs, leaving only the grafts. During the time in which the natural limbs remain upon the tree, there will be a production of much natural fruit, very much improved by close pruning, and without any injury to the grafts, the tree being much benefitted by a portion of the old limbs remaining for the time suggested.

From the first to the tenth of May is the best season for grafting old trees. I would refer him for information to the fruit-growing men at Hanford's Landing, Monroe Co., N. Y. MARSHALL HOWE.

Grand Rapids, Mich., April 22, 1861.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I will answer C. W. TURNER, concerning grafting the whole or half of a large apple tree, by telling some of my experience in grafting. Five years ago I saw a piece in the RURAL recommending grafting large limbs near the body, and the advantages to be derived therefrom. I had never done so before, but thought the plan a good one; so I went at it without reasoning, and recommend it to others. But in grafting orchards over, and taking notice of the different ways, I have come to the following conclusions. Never graft the whole of a tree that has but few long limbs, when by doing so it leaves the rest bare to the hot sun; but when there is plenty of small limbs for shade, and to draw the sap, I would graft enough to form a new top. Never cut a limb (while grafting) without grafting it, if it can be helped, nor cut a limb or sucker for one or two years after. I have killed and seen a great many good trees killed by cutting the top so as to let the sun strike too hot on the remaining limbs. I have seen large thrifty limbs with the bark all off on top, where the sun hit, and sound on the under side, while limbs of the same tree, in the shade, were sound. I have grafted in every week from the first of March till the bark began to peel in June, with about equal success. I use linseed or the new rock oil instead of tallow for the wax, but not quite as much oil as tallow. The wax sticks better with the oil than the tallow. A. GREEN.

Amboy, Ohio, April 15, 1861.

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CULTIVATION OF PEARS.

THE Fruit Committee of the Worcester (Mass.) Horticultural Society, give the following directions for growing fine specimens of pears:

"1st. Deep, generous tillage—by which is meant a trenching and manuring of the soil from one and a half to three feet deep. In other countries, where labor is cheaper and fruits dearer than they are here, this work is often extended to a depth of four feet, receiving a profitable return, even from so small a fruit-bearing plant as the strawberry. It is from a want of such cultivation that the finest pear trees taken from our nurseries often die, or come to nothing. They have 'no deepness of earth'—'no root'—and, as a natural consequence, they share the fate of the wasted seed of the parable.

2d. Cultivating or mulching of the surface around the trees, for a distance equal, at least, to the drip of their branches. But especial care should be taken to avoid the slightest bruising of the roots, and the mulch must not be so thick and heavy as to smother them.

3d. Underdrainage, wherever the subsoil is of a retentive nature. But all covered drains, whether of tiles or stones, should be not less than three feet deep, nor less than six or eight feet distant from the trunks of the trees; for many a fine tree set out directly above a shallow underground conduit has been poisoned to death by the foul air therein contained.

4th. Thinning of the fruit, especially of the class of trees known as 'great bearers.'

Pruning may be performed at any season of the year; but the best time is believed to be about the longest days of summer, while the worst effects that happen arise from using the saw or knife during the full flow of sap in the spring. An exception, however, must be made in cases where it is considered necessary to head in a newly planted tree."

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Horticultural Notes.

FLOWERING OF THE CENTURY PLANT.—It seems that a Century Plant is to flower in the city of New York the present summer. The following notice of the fact we cut from the *Buffalo Commercial Advertiser*—"David Bidwell, of New Orleans, is the fortunate possessor of a Century Plant, or American Aloe, which is expected to bloom in July or August next. Its blossoming spire has already attained an altitude of twenty feet, and it progresses in height from three to six inches a day. It is expected that the blossom will be larger than was ever yet seen. The plant left New Orleans for New York on the 25th of April, and will be exhibited in that city. We glean these facts from a circular kindly placed before us by our fellow-townsman, Vincent Bidwell, Esq.

WHALE OIL SOAP—REMEDY FOR THE CURCULIO.—Noticing in the RURAL of this week a call for a remedy against the Curculio, I give you a recipe taken from the *New York Observer* two years ago, which I, as well as many others, have found an *effectual* remedy, not only against the ravages of the Curculio, but worms and slugs. It is also a good fertilizer:

Recipe.—To one pound of whale oil soap, add four ounces of sulphur. Mix thoroughly, and dissolve in twelve gallons of water. Take one-half peck of quick lime, and when well slaked, add four gallons of water, and stir well together. When settled and clear, pour off the transparent part and add it to the soap and sulphur mixture. To this, add four gallons of strong tobacco water. Apply this compound, when thus incorporated, with a garden syringe, to your plum and other fruit trees, so as to drench all parts of the foliage. If no rain succeeds for three weeks, one application will be sufficient. If washed by rains, it should be renewed.

In preparing this mixture, some are troubled to obtain *whale oil soap*. Many do not know what it is. Every drug store in the country should keep the article for sale. It can be obtained by the quantity of all whale oil bleachers. This soap is the result of a deposit from mixing potash ley or soda-ash with whale oil. The alkali has an affinity for the discoloration and impurities of the oil, and the precipitate from this combination constitutes whale oil soap.—JANET, *Lewiston, N. Y.*, 1861.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Gardeners' Monthly* gives the following recipe for making whale oil soap:—"Render common ley caustic, by boiling it at full strength on quick lime, then take the ley, poured off from the lime, and boil with it so much *whale oil foot* as it will *saponify*, (this is readily seen,) pour off into forms, and when cold it is tolerably hard. That sold by the manufacturers is highly adulterated with common rosin, which remains as a varnish on the trees, and is detrimental. *Whale oil foot* is the sediment produced in the refining of whale oil, and worth $2 per barrel."

GRAVE DECORATIONS.—It is known to some of our readers that the French grow immense quantities of Immortal Flowers, for the formation of wreaths for the decoration of the tombs of their friends and the statues of departed heroes. A Paris correspondent of the *Gardeners' Monthly* thus alludes to this national custom:—"The cemetery differs from those at home in nothing more than in the abundance of wreaths of Immortelle flowers. The French love to visit cemeteries. Their gay nature here, perhaps, finds that reaction which everything in creation seems to require. Even distant friends and relations are visited by them, when dead, with a feeling of kind remembrance, which these, when alive, unhappily do not enjoy, and for all there is the wreath of Immortals.

"Busts and statues, on anniversaries of the death of their originals, are wreathed in the same way. Napoleon I, cast in bronze, standing on a high column made of iron ordnance taken in battles and recast, on every recurring day of his death gets profusely bewreathed, mostly by the few veterans still living. Or, if one of his old followers, living in the provinces, happens to come to Paris, he will not fail to hang up his wreath on the iron railing round his idol's column in the Place Vendome. Of course, the cultivation and sale of such wreaths has become a distinct trade. Numbers of girls are employed to make them, and they are sent from Paris all over France, selling by the dozen, the gross, and the hundreds of gross."

THE NEW PERFECTED TOMATO.—Having noticed in the *Farmer* of the 2d a valuable communication from the pen of Mr. C. E. Lester, upon the cultivation of the tomato, referring to his new valuable variety, and having experimented with it the past summer, I herewith give you my experience in the cultivation of this tomato, compared with other kinds.

I obtained and planted the seeds of Lester's Perfected Tomato in pots, the 20th of March, and placed them in the green-house, transplanting six plants into the open ground the 20th of June, at the same time placing six plants of the large early Red Premium Tomato, at the other extreme end of my garden. I manured, and served them alike through the summer. The Premium Tomatoes were much larger than the Perfected, when set out, but the latter soon outgrew the former, and ripened their fruit 10 days earlier. The quality of the fruit was superior, as described by Mr. Lester. Thin skin, very solid, large, and very prolific in bearing. I sent a dish of the tomatoes to the Essex Co. Ag. Society, [illegible] for them; the committee pronounced them superior to any variety on exhibition.—JOHN S. IVES, in *N. E. Farmer*.

FRUIT IN OHIO.—A subscriber at Gallipolis, Ohio, writes:—"Thus far our fruit looks very promising, and the indications of an abundant crop of apples, peaches, &c., are highly flattering. This Ohio river valley is destined to be one of the greatest fruit producing sections of the Union, and your New York citizens, who contemplate emigrating, would do well to give it their attention. Our mild climate, fine soil, and long summers, are peculiarly adapted to the grape, peach, apple, &c., and the low price at which good lands can be obtained, ought to be a great inducement. During the last winter, we did not have, at any time, over one inch of snow, and that only for a few hours."

EARLY PLANTING.—We would advise our readers not to be in a hurry about planting, especially seeds of tender plants, flower seeds, &c. A few hardy things may be sown as soon as the ground thaws in the spring, but the 15th of May is as early as we can plant most things with safety in this latitude. A few fine, warm days, often tempt the inexperienced amateur to commit his seeds to the ground in April, and perhaps in a cold, wet soil; but these fine days are followed by weeks of cold and wet, with occasional frosts, and the result is the loss of seed, and disappointment. Do every thing well, and exercise a little judgment.

DESTROYING THE APPLE TREE WORMS.—As soon as the nests are large to be readily seen, which is while the worms enough are quite small, make a soap suds of the consistence of thick cream, take a light pole of length adapted to the height of your trees, tie firmly on the small end a swab, letting it project four or five inches over the end. With this, apply the suds to the nests, twisting them around the swab, and thoroughly wetting the worms and the limb where the nest is. Rest assured they will soon be "*deadly sick*" of "soft soaping." Of various methods, I find this the easiest and most effective.—A. KNIFFEN, *East Kendall, N. Y.*, 1861.

THE GREAT VINCENNES PEAR TREE.—Some of our readers may have heard of this tree. The following statement of one of its crops is furnished by a correspondent of the *Ohio Farmer*:—"I think I have written you at some time in reference to the large pear tree in this county, planted where it now stands in 1804. In 1837 it bore one hundred and forty bushels of fruit, and was seventy-five feet across the top, sixty-five feet high, and ten and a half feet girth at the smallest place below the limbs; but two years ago it suffered severely from a tornado, losing two of its principal branches, and is now fast going to decay."

DEATH OF A HORTICULTURIST.—B. F. CAHOON, of Kenosha, Wis., died on the 22d ult., at his residence in that city. He was the grower of the Pie Plant called Cahoon's Mammoth, which obtained a good deal of notoriety for its great size.

TO DESTROY ANTS.—Hot water, say about 160°, in which flower of sulphur is steeped and poured over, will cause a speedy departure, with no disposition, on their part, to return. —*Gardeners' Monthly*.

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Inquiries and Answers.

HOUSE PLANTS.—What causes house plants to become lousy, and what is the best method to get rid of them, if any? The rose is more filthy with this insect than other ones of the plants. Now, if you or your contributors, know any way to get rid of this evil, please make it known through the RURAL.—T. E. M., *Mt. Vernon*, Ohio, 1861.

It is probably the *Aphis*, or Green Fly, that troubles your plants. Place them on a stand of some kind, and cover them with a cloth supported by hoops above the plants. Then burn some tobacco under them, producing a good smoke, which will be confined by the cloth. Keep up the smoke ten minutes, after which wash off the plants. It may be necessary to repeat this process occasionally. If the insect is a little red spider, it may generally be got rid of by washing the plants. If this fails, burn a little sulphur under them. This must be carefully done, as it sometimes injures the plants.

RHUBARB WINE.—Will you, or some of your numerous readers, be so kind as to give a recipe, through the RURAL, for making rhubarb or pie-plant wine?—G. A., *Allen's Grove, Wis.*, 1861.

The stalks are usually ground and pressed in the small portable cider mills, or the juice may be expressed in any way most convenient. One hundred pounds of stalks will make about ten gallons of juice. The custom is, we believe, to add about a gallon of water to each gallon of juice, and some six or seven pounds of sugar. Put into a cask, leaving the bung out, and fill up as fermentation progresses. When sufficiently worked, bung up. It may then be bottled off at leisure. Isinglass is sometimes used for refining.

ANGLE WORMS.—W. D. SMITH makes the inquiry in your paper, how to rid his garden of the common angle or earth worm. Your advice as to drainage and lightening of the soil is good, and to this I would only add that a little fine salt sown broadcast over the ground, at the time of spading or plowing, and after showers, while the worms are on the top of the ground, will be found a great help, as the smallest particle of salt, dropped on a worm, is sure death to it.—W. H., JR., *Port Byron, N. Y.*, 1861.

Domestic Economy.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

RAG MATS.—In answer to the inquiry about rag mats, I will give my way of using small bits of cloth of any kind. Cut, the size of a half dollar or less, then, with a needle and strong thread, sew through the center of the piece on the foundation, which ought to be thick woolen cloth. The more pieces you sew on, the longer it will last. Old stockings can be used up in this way. Another mode is to take seams and hems of old garments, and braid them three strand, then commence at one end and sew in a circle, or square. This will do without a foundation.

KNITTING HEEL AND TOE.—My way is, when the heel is long enough I knit one stitch over the middle of the needle, on the wrong side, take two stitches together, knit one, then turn back, knit the right way one stitch over the middle, take one stitch off without knitting; knit one, draw the other over, knit one, then turn the wrong side and knit back to the first narrowing. Knit the same as first. When about half done you may omit the one stitch after each narrowing. If it is done right, you will finish on the right side in a proper manner for taking up stitches on the side. For the toe, commence at the beginning of one needle, knit six stitches, narrow six stitches, narrow once around, knit six times five stitches, five times around, one less each time till you are done.—MARY, *Amboy, N. Y.*, 1861.

SHAPING STOCKING-TOES.—A friend wishes some of our grandmothers to state how to make a good shaped toe on a stocking. I am not a grandmother, or yet a mother, but I like my style very well. First place the stitches equally on the needles and narrow in each corner; knit one stitch, then narrow, and on the last corner of the needle leave three; then narrow, and one remains. Narrow every other time around at first; when nearly toed, every time around. This makes a good toe.—KATE WILD, *Conquest, N. Y.*, 1861.

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CARE OF STOVES AND PIPES.—When stoves are no longer needed, they are quite frequently set aside in an out-building, or other out of the way place, with no further thought, until again wanted for use. If neglected, the rust of the summer may injure them more than the whole winter's wear, particularly the parts made of sheet iron. They should be kept as [illegible] cleaned if rust be observed. It is best to apply a coating of linseed oil to the pipes before putting them away. It should be done while the pipes are warm (not hot) and keep a low temperature five or six hours. This is said to impart a fine lustre, and prevent rusting.—*Am. Agriculturist*.

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CORNING BEEF.—I find many nice recipes for corning beef in the RURAL, but no reference is made to soaking out the blood. Should the brine be changed more than once? If, after changing once, it becomes bloody, will boiling cleanse it sufficiently? Does boiling and skimming weaken the brine, so that it will need more salt and sugar?—A SUBSCRIBER, *Poplar Ridge, N. Y.*, 1861.

IT is usual to lay the beef on a table, sprinkle with salt, and let drain for two or three days, thus carrying away the blood. Brine need not be changed if properly made. Boiling and skimming will remove impurities, and strengthens rather than weakens the brine.

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BOILED INDIAN PUDDING.—Seeing an inquiry in a late number of our "RURAL" for a recipe to make "boiled Indian pudding," I send mine, which I think very good. Take six cups sour milk; two eggs; one teaspoon heaping full saleratus; two tablespoonfuls flour; six cups Indian meal; two tablespoons molasses; one-half cup sour cream. Raisins, or dried fruit, improve it very much. It is good either boiled or steamed. If boiled, it requires one cup more meal, and one spoon more flour than when steamed.—A. L. KING, *Parma, Mich.*, 1861.

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CLEANING CELLARS.—As this is the season when people are cleaning their cellars, yards, and sink-holes, it may not be out of place to remind them that the noxious vapors which arise can be destroyed by sprinkling their cellars with copperas water, made by dissolving one pound of copperas in a pail of warm water, and the sink-hole can be rendered innoxious by covering with pulverized charcoal.—H. A. C.

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HAM PIE, *A good substitute for a Chicken Pie.*—Make a crust the same as for soda biscuit, line your dish, then put in a layer of potatoes sliced thin, pepper, salt, and a little butter, then a layer of lean ham, then add pepper and salt and a good deal of water, and you will have an excellent pie.—A. G. W., *Lansingville*, 1861.

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COLORING WHITE KID GLOVES.—Will some one please to inform me, through the RURAL, how to color white kid gloves so they will look well, and oblige,—M., *Elkhorn, Wis.*, 1861.

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HOP YEAST.—Is there any known method of making hop yeast *minus* the "*cup of good yeast*" of the recipe makers. "More light" in the woods is wanted. —A. G. R., *Marquette, Mich.*, 1861.

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PAPERING HARD-FINISHED WALLS.—Will some of the RURAL readers please inform me the best method of making paper stick to a hard-finished wall, and oblige—A SUBSCRIBER.

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CHICKEN SALAD.—Will some of the readers of the RURAL please send a recipe for making chicken salad and oblige—A SUBSCRIBER, *Webster, N. Y.*, 1861.

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RUSK.—Will some of the numerous RURAL readers please inform me how to make good rusk?—LIDA, *Mattituck, L. I.*, 1861.

Ladies' Department.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

THE LAND OF CHILDHOOD.

BY MRS. A. J. NORTON

In the night-watches, when the stars are blazing
On the dim earth, with shadows peopled o'er,
Mine eyes, thought-laden, mournfully are gazing
Back to a distant country—Childhood's shore.
What though a vista full of gloom is sweeping
Between that Land and this I dwell in now,
Whose land marks faithful memory still is keeping,
Strewn with wrecked hopes and many a broken vow,

There smiles a land resplendent as the morning,
With flashing streams, and blue and cloudless skies,
Green fields, fair flowers, this beauteous land adorning
All bright as seen alone with childhood's eyes.
I see the aspen's silver leaflets quiver
In the bright sunshine—trembling, shimmering, flashing,—
I hear the ceaseless murmur of the river,
And far away the cataract's measured dashing

Again the breeze my hair is gently lifting,
While listening, breathless, to some wild bird's song,—
Or it is Autumn, sad, like gems, are drifting
The many-colored leaves my path along
I walk the path that leads along the mountain,
Dry sticks and leaves are crackling 'neath my feet,
And oft I've watched beside yon sparkling fountain
To see the fairies start from flower-bell sweet,

Or searched amid the rocks, so darkly looming,
For spring's first violets sheltered at their base;
And when I'd gathered them, so fresh and blooming,
Dropp'd them in haste, the squirrel fleet to chase
Lifting its bare arms pleadingly to Heaven,
As though it prayed to be laid in the dust,
I see the lofty oak, by lightning riven—
An emblem of a strong heart scathed and crushed

O, chide me not that, spell-bound, oft I wander
Where we can dwell but once—Childhood's fair shore.
I know 'tis vain, 'tis idle thus to ponder
Over the days that can return no more,
But yet some jewels have those days bequeathed me,
Wherewith to deck the present, sad, and chill,
And fadeless are the hues that then enwreathed me
In memory's sacred casket treasured still.

And the "Home Spirit" ever round me lingers,
And ever sings a sweet and plaintive song,
And ever points with her unmoving fingers
To that fair land where once I gaily roamed.
So in the night time, dreaming, or in vision,
While night's lone voices still I seem to hear,
I'm far away, to childhood's land elysian,
With childhood's voices ringing in mine ear.
Dowlee, N. Y., 1861.

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[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker]

AUNT BETSEY IN TROUBLE.

"BLESS the poor cretur's heart!" said Aunt BETSEY, taking off her spectacles and laying down the last RURAL, "if I'd ever thought that what I said was going to go right to *anybody's* heart so, I never would have said it in the world! Now, who knows, girls, but what she'll feel so convicted about it that she'll give the fellow she was going to have, the mitten. Then, if she tells him how it was what I said that made her, like enough he'll sue *me* for breach of promise. I never felt so worked up in my life, for goodness knows I've lived to be as old as I am without so much as *trying* to make a match or break one, 'cause I always thought that when folks put their own fingers in the fire, it don't seem to hurt so bad as when other folks do it for them."

"I don't believe she ever read her Bible much, anyhow," she continued, after taking up the paper [illegible] a kind of parable about the precipice. As the minister says, I didn't *litterally* mean that folks jump off a precipice when they get married, but *figger*atively they know just about as much about the land they're going into, as a man would know about where he'd light if he jumped off a precipice with his eyes blinded. I don't s'pose I ought to have *told* anything about it, for everybody finds out soon enough what the *peculiarities* are. I meant a man that she never had seen in his own home with his brothers and sisters, and she thought I meant that after she got married she 'never would see him at home.' I guess my grammar was crooked there, and I don't think there'll be the least doubt about her seeing him at home at least three times a day, (that is, if she gets good victuals to eat.) Men always bring in a pail of water, or an armful of wood, when they feel like it, or when some one else hasn't got it first. Anybody might reasonably calculate that they get about a tenth of the quantity of such articles as would be necessary to use in a common family."

"The child didn't seem to see that I was talking about the first of housekeeping when I spoke about the shirts and needles. Of course, *she* will have a place for shirts, and keep them there after she gets settled, and he'll know where to look for them *then*, but that will not prevent things being topsy-turvy in all directions for the first day or two, as she'll find to her satisfaction, if there's but one pair of hands to regulate them, and unless *he* is brighter than the majority of men, he'll have precious little idee how he can go to work to help about it. About the butter and honey, I expect every body *tries* hard enough to have it spread even, but human natur' is perverse and unreasonable, and full of all sorts of little meddlesome spirits that keep licking it off, as it's my opinion that there's precious few folks gets along without tasting the bread pretty strong once in a while. It's the best way to swallow it down, though, and now, on the whole, don't you think, girls, and don't you s'pose Miss 'O' will think, if you tell her so, that all them things I told you about havin' to bear if you get married aint *evils* after all."

"It's just as natral for a man that is a man, to stave ahead and try to do somethin' in the world, as it is for him to eat; and if he was always stoppin' to pick up chips to boil his dinner with, there wouldn't be much dinner to boil. If she's really scared about having to bring in her own wood though, I can tell her that men do bring in an armful when they can stop to, and sometimes, when it's necessary, they hire somebody else to do it."

"I've done all I can to comfort her, anyhow," she concluded, laying down the paper again, and looking reflectively at the fire. "If she'll look at all them evils in the right way, with the sperrit of submission, and the eyes of love, she'll be saved from the worst 'woman's fate' that I know anything about,—that of thinkin' she's abused, 'cause her husband don't always see where her shoes pinch. I'd like to know who she is, anyhow. You just say somethin' about my not being worth any property, and all I *have* got being willed away, as if there's any trouble 'tween *her* and *him*, she can't think of getting any damages out of me. ALICE, where's my knitting? how I have been hendered to be sure! and come to think of it, I don't believe what I said will make an atom of difference. I'll bet she'll be married long enough 'fore she's saved by my '*admonitions*,' cause letters go slow sometimes, and I guess she was most ready."

Charlotte Center, N. Y., 1861. E. C. L. R.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

WOMAN'S RIGHTS AND AUNT BETSY.

SEEING a communication from "O." to Aunt BETSEY, and feeling somewhat interested in the old lady,—of whom, by the way, I have some slight knowledge,—excuse the liberty I have taken of saying a few words on the subject, which shall be done with due deference *for her gray hairs*.

Our aunt, being country born and bred, has a heart,—a real, loving heart, that feels for others, woes. She is ever ready to assist the needy or relieve the distressed, and as she is naturally of a very cheerful disposition, I think something must have happened, which "riled" *her more than common*, when the spoke of woman's rights. Often does she gather us about her, and many are the words of love and wisdom which fall from her lips as she relates her experiences in order that we may profit thereby. She is called a kind, charitable person, and I beg you, "G.," not to judge her by that conversation. *I* cannot agree with her, for to me life appears like the April day, all clouds and sunshine, and that "Woman's Rights" are to guard woman's home from the storms that oft will cloud the domestic sky, and so to arrange her *culinary affairs* that the "butter and honey" of forbearance and love, in place of being all used at once, shall be spread so evenly on the bread of every day life. In such a home, the husband, instead of treading *her* "rights under his foot," will feel that *his* right to cherish and protect her is the dearest one on earth. As for the wood and water, no true man will let his wife bring them while he sits idle, and when he asks you for the shirt, is it not because he knows your dislike to tumbled drawers; and does not his smile amply repay you for the trouble. Yes, indeed, and *there's* another of your rights, to win that smile, from your liege lord, by kindly deeds and pleasant words, and a true woman will value it more than all the rights of suffrage which can be granted her.

I do not wish to be understood as saying that there are no abused women, for alas, there are many such; but I cannot think "the best of men" will so far forget their manhood as our aunt declares,—if so, *oh shades of* HORACE, deliver me from such a fate. Better for us, Cousin O., to live the unloved, unloving *old maid's* life, than the loving but unloved one of a husband's slave. JENNIE.

Dewittville, N. Y., 1861.

* * *

HOW WOMEN BECOME INSANE.

I REMARK that over three thousand cases of insanity have now come under my direct care and observation. In a large proportion of those cases whose history I could obtain, I have found that the remote and predisposing causes of insanity could be plainly traced to the *malign influences of childhood*. These influences I cannot at this time enumerate or consider, but their knowledge justifies the assertion that *when the duty of making home wise and happy shall be better realized*, we shall have in our land less of vice and crime, and much *less of insanity*. The neglect of physical training, and the imperfect physical development which follows, consequent to this neglect, are strikingly evident in many of our female patients. The various causes which are reported to me, as the source of disease, and which are classified in the tables under the head of "ill health," "intense mental and bodily effort," "grief," "domestic unhappiness," etc., may very frequently be traced, in their primary influences, to the one cause of a want of physical [illegible] here to remarks which I made in the twenty-fourth annual report (for 1848.) I there stated that of the one hundred and eighty-seven female patients admitted during the past three years, thirty-four per cent. were the *wives of farmers and mechanics*,—quite an undue proportion of the comparative number of these classes in the community. The consideration of the causes which led to this most natural result, showed that between nursing, the accumulation of household duties and drudgery, and the *miserable short-sighted economy which often led the husband to refrain from supplying the necessary domestic assistance*, the poor heart-broken and discouraged wife had lost in turn her appetite, her rest, and her strength, her nervous system had become prostrated, and, sinking under her burdens, she had sought refuge in the Retreat. One of our worthy female patients remarked one day to a lady, "Only think of it! Dr. Butler is keeping me here, and I have six children and fourteen cows to take care of at home." "Twenty excellent reasons for your remaining here till you are cured," was the timely answer. They were the twenty reasons which had made her insane.

I venture to say that not one girl in ten, now-a-days, enjoys really sound, rugged health; and surely that is a very unwelcome statement about those who are expected to be helpmates to husbands and mothers of children. * * Parents and teachers both should inculcate upon children of both sexes the importance of health-bringing active exercise. Boys need but little urgency, but girls should be compelled to take it. It is possible for them to become of strong, vigorous health, with excellent digestion and no nervousness. An English girl, accustomed to all weathers and thick shoes, considers a half-dozen miles as a mere trifle of a walk, and she takes it day by day. The majority of American girls, with their thin shoes, would shrink from such an attempt, and regard it as nearly an impossibility. The reason of this is, that bodily exercise is the rule for the girls in England, and for ours it is the exception. —*Report of the Insane Asylum at Hartford.*

* * *

THE LOVE OF BEAUTY.—The love of beauty and refinement belongs to every true woman. She ought to desire, in moderation, pretty dresses, and delight in beautiful colors and graceful fabrics; she ought to take a certain, not too excessive pride, in herself, and be solicitous to have all belonging to her well chosen and in good taste; to care for the perfect ordering of her house, the harmony and fitness of her furniture, the cleanliness of her surroundings, the good style of her arrangements; she ought not to like singularity, either of habit or appearances, or be able to stand out against a fashion when fashion has become custom; she ought to make herself conspicuous only by the perfection of her taste, by the grace and harmony of her dress, the unobtrusive good breeding of her manners; she ought to set the seal of a gentlewoman on every square inch of her life, and shed the radiance of her own beauty and refinement on every material object about her.

* * *

WHAT a wondrous sensation it is to feel that a chance expression we have used, a few stray words, have been stored up as precious memories. Is there any flattery like it? What an ecstacy to feel that we could impart value to the veriest commonplace, and without an effort, without even a will, sit enthroned within some other heart.

Choice Miscellany.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

SPRING.

BY ELLEN C. L. SIMDEL

Life is in the world again!
Winter, white and cold
As the shrouds o'er dead hearts lain
In a silent fold.
Drops at last the scepter held
Through such dreary days,—
Straightway all the world is fill'd
With the Spring's sweet ways!

Buds on barren boughs burst forth,
Touched by Southern breeze,
Birds are wild with singing mirth,
Snow to Northward flees.
All Life's pulses stronger grow
In the freshened air,
Bright the flowers and hopes that blow,
Beauty's everywhere.

Every beat of quickened blood
In the sluggish vein,
Lip-ward sends the cheerful word,
Heart ward, joy's refrain;
Life, the God-renewed and strong,
Through earth's arteries moves,
Winter, dreary, cold and long,
Chills not Nature's love.
Charlotte Center, N. Y., 1861.

* * *

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

PENCILINGS—No. II.

ORIGINALITY.—There would be more originality if everybody were perfectly free to follow their natural inclinations, and were also endowed with energy to carry out their designs. Strictly speaking, all men would be original, at least in their mode of action, if untrammeled by custom and surrounding circumstances. People grow up molded by circumstances, and their course is more or less plainly marked out by precept and example. It is smoother walking in a beaten road than across an untracked field. Thus a great many people fail to bring out their peculiar characteristics by doing as their fathers have done, and acting as they are expected to act. But there are others whose characters stand out in bolder outline, —men who love their own thoughts and plans better than any which others may originate. The claims of custom have little control over them, and their feet are ever turning aside into unexpected paths. If such men succeed at all, it is by following lines of their own tracing; they are sure to fail if they undertake to follow another's leading. The reason is plain. If any one would be successful, he must have faith in his principles of action. An original person thinks his own plans the best, and he cannot pursue with patience or confidence one marked out by another. There are some who possess enough originality to make them eccentric, yet are without energy to accomplish their designs. You could teach a comet to follow in a planet's orbit, as easily as you could make them adopt the rules of conduct prescribed by another. One writer calls genius "a strongly marked individuality." This would be a good definition of originality. A person may be original without having those high capacities which we call genius. A man's conduct may bear the impress of his own peculiar character, and yet he may not be possessed of any superior powers of mind. He picks his way through life without paying any attention to the [illegible] straight lines of propriety and precision. His independence and oddity attract attention, and if they are prompted by nature, not by affectation, they claim respect. But while a person may be eccentric without a high order of genius, yet, in general, a really original person leaves his impress upon the world. He does not allow his individual peculiarities to run wild, but guides them by reason. Thus he is in a position of advantage; he lays his plans and carries them out without stopping to inquire whether they interfere with custom, or conflict with opinion.

POSITION.—The value of a figure depends upon its position, or place from units.—*Adam's Arithmetic.*

Yes, position *is* a great deal, and not figures alone are affected by it. There is Mrs. JOHN SMITH, who possesses great influence and ascendancy over the minds of her neighbors, yet she has neither beauty nor talent,—cannot sing sweetly, nor talk interestingly, but she has *position*. If by any means you can get within the region of her favor, immediately you will be recognized by those whose vision was not sufficiently clear to pierce through the veil of obscurity. The advance step has brought you within their view.

If you happen to belong to the poor unit column, get yourself advanced into the tens, and if possible, into the "upper tens." Your unit value may be only naught, but if you understand the magic influence of position, you will, at all hazard, attach yourself to the lofty ones above you. After your elevation, be careful how you have intercourse with those units. Remember, at every upward step you are ten times as great as before, and recollect, also, that cyphers are just as valuable as substantial figures, *if they are only in the right position*.

OUR CIRCLES.—Just now I saw a hawk flying in long circular sweeps the sky. The bird is like me—like all. Every day we go through a circle of labor, of ambitious hopes and fears. Often our days are

"So like each other
They cannot be remembered,"

Yet they are not alike—each one bears us a little further onward. I watched the bird 'till almost out of sight; still it kept wheeling around, and all the time passing further away. So is it with mortals, until they reach the great circle of eternity, that they may never complete. M. D.

* * *

THE DEATH OF INFANTS.—Those who never lost a child are unable to understand how great a void one little one can make. There is, we think, nothing on earth that can cast as long, wide and black a shadow, as a small coffin. It is emphatically the shadow of death that freezes the parent's heart. Small as is an infant's tomb, it sometimes is capacious enough to hold all the brightest hopes and the dearest joys of a whole family circle. The little child is often the bright focus where all the rays of gladness center, and from which they are reflected again over happy hearts; and when this central light is eclipsed, great darkness falls upon all. How many there must be in heaven,—gathered up from all climes, even from heathen shores,—who have died so young as to retain no memory of earth, and to whom that world of glory seems as their native land.

* * *

THE "golden everlasting chain," described by Homer as reaching from heaven to earth, and embracing the whole moral world, was no fable. That chain is love.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

CHEAP ARTICLES.

"IT'S a cheap silk, m'am, only two dollars a yard,—you won't find another in the city to equal it; it's first in style, beautiful colors, hav'nt had anything finer this season, can't get a cheaper."

ALL very true; still, my dear madam, you don't want it; consider, thirty dollars for the dress, a few more for the trimming and making, then you must have collar and undersleeves to match, your gloves look faded, your cloak is rusty, your bonnet is scarcely genteel,—why not have a complete outfit while you are about it? When all this is finished, the appearance of your parlors scarcely corresponds with your own; they need refitting, a new carpet is indispensable, the curtains are worn and certainly no longer ornamental, and as they never were useful, must give place to better,—a what-not here, and a tete-a-tete in this corner, would add greatly to the looks of things. When all this is done to your liking, it is high time to invite a party, to admire the rooms if for nothing more; and so it goes on until, when at length you look about to see how much you have gained, you find your daughters vain, fashionable young ladies, with neither sensible heads nor sound hearts, and your sons dissipated, foppish young men, who think it good manners to treat their parents with cool impertinence.

"It's a cheap stand, sir, cheapest in the city, can't find another like it for double the money, good situation, good custom, frequented by all the fast men in town, has a good name, too, as things go,—better take up with the offer, sir."

All true, too true; but, my dear sir, if you could buy that stand for nothing it would be too dear for you. You have a respectable name now, don't disgrace it by making drunkards, for wine does that as surely as rum. You are honored, nay, loved by your neighbors now. Who honors or loves the man that deals out headaches, heartaches, sin and misery by the glass? You have a wife who is striving daily to lead you into the better way,—don't break her heart by telling her, as nothing else so surely can, that you will never walk there. You have children, —have mercy, and for their sake, save other children from the sight of a besotted parent.

"It's cheap land, sir, and good too. 'Twill be a bargain for the man who takes it, and in my opinion you're the one who ought to have it; it just joins your farm, and will make the line run out square to the east road. There is not a better 'eighty acres' in the county, and if I were you I'd buy it."

Don't do it; you have all that you can work well now, aye, you could profitably put more labor on that than you now do. Why then should you buy? What will you gain? I'll tell you. You, of course, with eighty extra acres need more help, but you never think that your wife needs the same. She, "poor woman," does not complain, for she knows that your expenses are far greater now than before, and so tries to lessen her own. The children are sent to school early because their mother cannot spare the time to train them as she should. They are sent to the teacher, and the teacher, alas! for the scholars, she is one of the cheap articles, too. Time passes on. Your children grow up, not strong, for they were overworked when their limbs were tender,—(not through cruelty, but, as you thought, through necessity,)—not educated, for since they were old enough you never gave them a chance to study,—not affectionate, as you were too busy at work ever to think of loving them. What wonder is it that such children never learn to love each other? In your old age, when you look over those broad acres, waving with grain, and grass, and beautiful in the sunlight, may the sight bring joy to your heart, for truly they were dearly bought. SUE CARROLL.

Lima, N. Y., 1861.

* * *

GUARD AGAINST VULGAR LANGUAGE.

THERE is as much connection between the words and the thoughts as there is between the thoughts and the actions. The latter are not only the expression of the former, but they have a power to react upon the soul, and leave the stain of their corruption there. A young man who allows himself to use one vulgar or profane word, has not only shown that there is a foul spot upon his mind, but by the utterance of that word he extends that spot and inflames it, till, by indulgence, it will pollute and ruin the whole soul. Be careful of your words as well as your thoughts. If you can control the tongue that no improper words are pronounced by it, you will soon be able, also, to control the mind, and save that from corruption. You extinguish the fire by smothering it, or by preventing bad thoughts bursting out in language. Never utter a word anywhere which you would be ashamed to speak in the presence of the most refined female, or the most religious man. Try this practice a little while, and you will soon have command of yourself.

* * *

LIFE WITHOUT AND WITHIN.—Seldom do we meet sensitiveness of conscience or discriminating reflection as indigenous growth of a very vigorous physical development. Your true, healthy boy has the breezy, hearty virtues of a New Foundland dog—the wild fullness of life of the young race colt. Sentiment, sensibility, delicate perceptions, spiritual aspirations, are plants of later growth. But there are —both of men and women—beings born into this world in whom from childhood the spiritual and the reflective predominate over the physical. In relation to other human beings, they seem to be organized much as birds are in relation to other animals. They are the artists, the poets, the unconscious seers, to whom the purer truths of spiritual instruction are open. Surveying man merely as an animal, these sensitively organized beings, with their feebler physical powers, are imperfect specimens of life. Looking from the spiritual side, they seem to have a noble strength—a divine force. The types of this latter class are more commonly among women than among men.—*Mrs. Stowe.*

* * *

AVOID DECEPTION.—Persons who practice deceit and artifice always deceive themselves more than they deceive others. They may feel great complacency in view of the success of their doings; but they are in reality casting a mist before their own eyes. Such persons not only make a false estimate of their own character, but they estimate falsely the opinions and conduct of others. No person is obliged to tell all he thinks; but both duty and self-interest forbid him ever to make false pretences.

* * *

THE NEW CREATION.—Every spring God works countless wonders. (We do not call them miracles, *because* we see them every spring.) Out of a little bud, he brings a branch with leaves, and flowers, and fruits. From a tiny seed he evolves a whole plant, with its system of roots and branches. And more wonderful still, we see springing into life a new generation of insects and creeping things, and birds and beasts. "In wisdom hast thou made them all."

Sabbath Musings.

TRUST.

SAVIOR, happy would I be
If I could but trust in Thee—
Trust Thy wisdom me to guide,
Trust Thy goodness to provide,
Trust the saving love and power,
Trust Thee every day and hour

Trust Thee as the only light
In the darkest hour of night,
Trust in sickness, trust in health,
Trust in poverty and wealth;
Trust in joy and trust in grief,
Trust Thy promise for relief,

Trust Thy blood to cleanse my soul;
Trust Thy grace to make me whole;
Trust Thee living, dying too—
Trust Thee all my journey through;
Trust Thee till my feet shall be
Planted on the crystal sea.

* * *

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

THE LOVED AND LOST.

WHAT tender memories fill the hearts of bereaved ones after time has taken away the first sting of grief. With what reverent tenderness we recall the virtues of the departed, and under this frequent and loving review of their characters our own hearts are unconsciously purified.

And who has not the sacred memory of some lost friend hidden away from the common view, to which they turn with subdued pleasure. It may be that of a loved father, who ever shared our childish joys and sorrows, and whose stern integrity has made an indelible impression on our minds. Or of a gentle mother, who was ever full of tender care for her family, yet ever cheerful, but whose worth we never knew until she left us. It may be of a noble brother, who died in the first flush of youth. Or, saddest of all, it may be the ever present grief of parents who mourn the loss of a promising child, the recollection of whose winning loveliness is ever a precious possession to their mourning hearts.

When death strikes near us, and bears away from our sight forever the child of some dear friend, how the sympathy we can but feel for the bereaved ones, breaks up the current of our selfish and worldly existence. As we see the stricken mother going about her now desolate home, collecting the toys which belonged to the dear one, and ever turning in plaintive sadness towards a little mound in the grave yard, our hearts ache at our inability to offer consolation; but we can earnestly pray that the SAVIOR's promise may be confirmed to her, "Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted." S. C. D.

Geneva, Wis., 1861.

* * *

WEAK BRETHREN.—1. There are some brethren so physically weak, that they cannot raise their hand as high up as their pockets, and some not quite so weak but that they could do that, who are not able to lift it out again. 2. There are some brethren so weak from the labors of business, that they have not strength to walk to church on the Sabbath, and some not quite so weak, who can get there only once that day. 3. There are some so weak after the toils of the day, that they are not able to walk to prayer meeting; and then, again, others who can get there, are too weak to speak or pray. 4. There are some brethren so weak as to be unable to rise early enough to have family worship before business hours; then there are others, who do rise early, but are too weak to reach down the old family Bible. 5. There are some brethren so weak in talents that they are not able to teach a class in Sabbath School, but who are not quite so weak when a political meeting is on hand.—*Anon.*

* * *

EVERY-DAY RELIGION.—There is not much solidity in a religion that will not stand the test of every-day experience. "There are a good many pious people," says Douglas Jerrold, "who are as careful of their religion as of their best service of China, only using it on holiday occasions, for fear it should get chipped or flawed in working-day wear." That species of religion may do for a show, but there's little substance in it. It is not the kind to last. It is too fine for use. It is too much of the gilt gingerbread sort for the more general service of mankind. It can do little good in the eyes of one who judges us not by the exterior, but by the interior evidence of excellence. Religion, to be serviceable, must not only be substantial, but active. It must not be drowsy. It must be wide awake, vigilant and sturdy.

* * *

TURN THEIR FACES HEAVENWARD.—Among the old Romans there prevailed the touching custom of holding the face of every new-born infant towards the heavens, signifying, by thus presenting its forehead to the stars, that it was to look above the world into celestial glories. It was a vague superstition, but Christianity dispels the fable, and gives us a clear realization of that pagan yearning, in the deep solicitude which all its disciples cherish for the spiritual welfare of the young. The great design of the Sunday School organization is to turn the faces of the little children towards heaven, and prepare their spirits for immortal glory.—*Rev. A. S. Patton.*

* * *

NO DULL HOURS.—"I never spend one dull hour," said Clementine, the daughter of the celebrated Baron Cuvier. These words were uttered when she was in declining health, when it was necessary to leave her a great part of the time alone. What was the secret by which, under those depressing circumstances, she was enabled to escape those dull hours, which so many of us experience? She had the presence of Jesus! Who can have dull hours, when they are blessed with the society of their best beloved friend? She had a habitual sense of the presence of Christ.

* * *

PRAYER is ever profitable; at night it is our covering; in the morning it is our armor. Prayer should be the key of the day, and the lock of the night. He is listed in God's service and protection, who makes it his first work to be enrolled by prayer under the standard of the Almighty. He carries an assistant angel with him for his help, who begs his benediction from above; and without it he is lame and unarmed.—*Feltham.*

* * *

HE who rears up one child in Christian virtues, or recovers one fallen creature to God, builds a temple more precious than Solomon's or St. Peter's—more enduring than earth or sky.—*Channing.*

* * *

THE triumphs of truth are the most glorious, chiefly because they are the most bloodless of all victories, deriving their highest lustre from the number of the *saved*, not of the *slain*.

The Traveler.

[Foreign Correspondence of the Rural New-Yorker.]

FETE DAY IN TUSCANY.

FLORENCE, March, 1861.

As we sat this morning, enjoying the Italian *dolce far niente*, gazing dreamily at the purple Appenines rising above the mighty Duomo, and glittering Campanile, and meditating on ancient times and things, a picturesque raft, with two tall ladders, cone-like in the center, came poling up the Arno. Curiosity awoke in one moment, the classic waters of the Arno being now rarely disturbed save by the small Gondola-shaped boats, that glide softly up and down. But how stupid to forget for a moment! To-morrow is the grand fete day; these are the preparations for the illumination. Thursday was the King's birthday; flags and firing, however, were all that announced it. All fetes are held on Sundays, on account of the peasantry, and so to-morrow will be the grand gala by which Tuscany greets her King.

But about these pyrotechnic preparations. The raft passes under the arches of the Ponte alla Carraia, that noble bridge, 300 years old, and pauses at the wall of the quay. The river is enclosed by high stone walls, and the broad streets on each side, called Lung' Arno, are the Fifth Avenues of Florence. One man steadies the raft with his pole, and two others, ascending the ladders, drive in between the stones stout wires. These are bent at the end, so as to hold a small earthen pan, filled with oil and a wick. Here comes a boat, also with a ladder, shooting out from under the bridge. It contains three men; they commence with the first arch, and following the curve, fasten the little pans above it; then, a straight line appears above that; from the top of the bridge, men fasten pans to form still an upper line; other boats come. Now a row of these little dots is seen out to the sharp edge of the stone pier, which projects like a vast wedge into the water. They are at work at the other end of the bridge too; and slowly, slowly, following arch, and doubling piers, and succeeding each other, they complete the triple row of lamps across the bridge, 323 feet in length.

It is a pretty sight to watch them, so quietly and calmly going round these immense quays, with their loads of earthen pans. Now look to the right; they are doing the same at the Ponte Santa Trinita, that most beautiful of bridges, which has been the admiration of the world for 600 years. These quiet waters look so gay with all these rafts and boats, that move with slow and stately grace, as if the spirits of mighty dead still gaze from the palace walls on either side. Here is one, with a man in a green coat and red cap, and looking delightfully picturesque, on the summit of his high ladder. There goes a Garibaldian across the bridge; you can tell him by his red shirt. "*Viva* GARIBALDI," cries the old nut seller at the corner—"*Viva*," echoes the boatman, as he hums GARIBALDI's hymn.

How fine the effect of all this will be to-morrow night. The ordinary street gas lights, reflected in the Arno, form every evening one of the most beautiful scenes conceivable. What will be the effect of these hundreds of lights?

Now they are beginning to decorate the lamp posts. Wires bent downward, in a curve, and alternating, one short and one long one, so as to form a double line of lights. Stages are in process of erection in the three largest piazzas. Baskets of colored lanterns flit about, and flowers in abundance.

Though honor is thus paid to VICTOR EMANUEL, yet in the city there is not great enthusiasm. Some loudly maintain that the whole country, from Appenines to Tiber, palpitates with enthusiasm. But the conservative Florentines, who love their ease, and their old ways, are not so well pleased with the new taxations and improvements. Their hearts are not exactly in their purses, as is often said of a meaner race, yet so many scudi and florini are required, as to cause some murmurs. The old jealousy, too, of neighboring States, particularly of Piedmont, is a Medusa, whose snakes still crawl, though the severed head lies low.

There are a few who zealously think of LEOPOLD I as an exile; who refuse to call the Pitti Palace aught but the Grand Duke's palace; who grumble as they walk on the Cascine, "He will be having some of this good under-wood cleared," &c.; who declare that Tuscany can never be merged into Piedmont. These croakers forget, however, that under this same Austrian Duke they could never have spoken so freely; people were plunged in dungeons, with rats and vermin, for far less license of speech.

A pleasant anecdote of the King is this: During his babydom, he was brought on a visit to a villa in Florence, called the Poggio Imperiale. Through carelessness, fire caught in his apartment, and his faithful nurse saved his life at the forfeit of her own, dying in a short time, from the burns received. Last year, on his visit here, the King caused a tablet to be placed in the very room, with an inscription in honor of his nurse's fidelity.

SUNDAY MORNING.—Grandly rises the sun, giving to the mountains, and the city lying in their purple shadows, an unusual glow of beauty. One cannot help being animated on such a day when the very air is exhilaration. Every one looks gay and happy. Peasants, in cloaks and hats, in broad straw flats and silk aprons, throng into the city. Some walking, some on donkeys, some jogging in funny two-wheeled carriages. In all directions people are busy. It looks to us little like a Sabbath.

Huge baskets of glass lamps, looking like soap bubbles, are carried round. They hang them on the hooks in the houses, and about the lamp posts. Some idea of their number, perhaps, can be given. On one post are 22 lamps,—6 posts on one bridge. On the facade of the palace next, are 265 lamps. All over the city, these fairy-like pendants are arranged. Huge pyramids of flowers are carried about, and cart loads of paper lanterns. Donkeys and horses have streamers of ribbons.

The old streets are like gay avenues, with the display of flags. They hang where once resounded republican oratories; they wave in triumph on the palaces of the Codini, (the Grand Duke's party,) float from the strong holds of the Medici. The scene in front of the Palazzo Vecchio is most thrilling. How many revolutions have began and ended by this stern old fortress! Hundreds of years ago the theatre of democratic actions, then the palace of the imperial Medici, seeing constant changes of rulers, witnessing freedom and slavery, this glorious old building yet stands. And to-day its enormous battlements glitter with banners and lamps in honor of a King of Italy, and the old bells of its Campanile are ringing as they have never rang before, "*Viva l'Italia!*"

By the Fountain of Neptune is a vast platform. Here, in the palmy old days, was the Ringhiera, or Tribune, where assembled the learning and the eloquence of Florence. To-day, the Tritons spout forth the waters, varied and bright with iris colors, as if this were the dawn of a new era, when Italia shall again wave her laureled scepter of Arts and Poetry.

Under the noble arches of the Loggia de Lanzi, are stands for the musicians, close to where the Roman grasps the Sabine, where Ajax dies and Perseus forever slays Medusa. Pendants and circles of lamps decorate this grand Arcade, and the old lions ramp in front of all. The piazza is full of people, with holiday garb and air. Colored lanterns, colored oils in lamps, give a pretty effect to the dark old houses. There is a picture of a bloody field with the Austrians in full flight. "*Porco Tedesco*"—German pig,—says a dark-browed Tuscan, in Contadina garb.

Turn up the narrow Porta Rossa, one avenue of flags to the Piazza Sta Trinita. Here is a platform by the granite column, brought from the baths of Caracalla. The waving tri-color recalls the words of one of their own poets, BERCHET, whose works were, till very lately, a prohibited pleasure:

> "Il verde, la speme tant anni pasciuta,
> Il rosso, la gioia di averla compiuta;
> Il bianco, la fede fraterna d' amor."

Will any one thank us for a literal translation?

> The green, the hope so many years deferred,
> The red, the joy of having obtained it;
> The white, the fraternal faith of love.

Here is the Lung' Arno,—the Broadway of Florence,—flags float and lamps glitter in the sun. What a crowd! but all so quiet and orderly; no where but in quiet Florence could you witness such a scene.

There goes a Bersagliere, as the Sardinian riflemen are called, with a laughing, boyish face under his waving feathers. Here is a Capuchin, with his white almsbag.

"See, the Hotel de New York has put out candles instead of lamps. How mean!" says an English voice behind,—"Prince CORSINI has hung out his flag." "Ah! the old Codini, they have to do it," comments an Italian.

"Violets?" says a flower girl, with hyacinths.

"Quelles sont beaux chevaux," adds a French voice; and so on we go with the crowd to the Cascine. The troops are reviewed there to-day. A more brilliant scene cannot be conceived. On one side, the Cascine, with its long avenues of trees, some ivy-wreathed to their summits, others just bursting into foliage, with that soft, tender, green tint which is almost transparency; on the other side a broad plain, or green meadow. Here the troops are drawn up in glittering array,—a gallant body of men, this National Guard, numbering 4,000, and all Florentine citizens. Beyond, above, are the everlasting hills, looking down in grandeur, Fiesole in quiet loveliness, with her guardian watch-tower.

The scene is brilliant indeed. Gay carriages, with footmen and out-riders,—fair-faced English ladies in ermine,—Italian Countesses, with flashing eyes and jewelled robes,—flower girls,—Contadini,—officers on prancing steeds,—the Bersagliere,—the Mountain Riflemen, in their sylvan costume, with green belts, and caps, and drooping feathers, looking like Robin Hood's bold archers,—here and there French officers in blue and red, waving plumes, tossing banners,—all this charming scene fades in the words that essay to describe it.

At four o'clock, a grand corso of carriages takes place. The peasantry of the neighboring country are far the happiest looking people. This is a true gala day for them. Many of them have brought their contributions to the National Crown. For the old iron crown of Lombardy, which the Austrians carried away, even could it be regained, (say the papers,) "after having encircled so many vile brows, shall never be used for a King of Italy." Contributions limited to twenty centimes each, from the mass of the people, received from now till July, will purchase the new crown for the King.

MONDAY.—Florence last night was a city of fire. Looking up or down the Arno, the thousands of lights gleaming in the water and doubling the arches of the bridges, were magnificent. Nearly every house in the city was illuminated. The Pitti Palace stood out in tracery of fire, the lights following the architectural lines, defined its proportions closely. This is the usual method of illumination in Italy. The mighty dome of the Cathedral towered above every thing, a dome of fire, surmounted by a cross of flame. Giotto's Campanile flashed with light through its arches. But the old bell tower of the Palazzo Vecchio was most magnificent. Against the dark sky it seemed just bursting forth in flames, that showed every line of its bold architecture, and there it glowed all night long.

The streets were crowded, yet there was no noise, no pushing, no elbowing, as in an American throng. Florence is the most quiet and orderly city in the world. The streets and squares in the new part of the town, which are named after their heroes and battles,—Via Montebello, Via Garibaldi, &c.,—were brilliantly illuminated. One palace displayed the Sardinian Cross and arms, and beneath, the King's prophet name. God grant him grace to fulfill the glorious prophecies of that name!

The music was fine in all parts of the city. At eleven, a band of men with torches rushed wildly through the streets, chanting GARIBALDI's hymn. In fact, everybody sang it. The bands played it, the people hummed it, the harpers swept it, the fiddlers stringed it, and the children whistled it. In the Piazza del Duomo, the band played a lively Polka, suddenly changing the time, and softening the measure with pauses, when the people cried "*Viva l'Italia*." The time was perfectly preserved in this novel chanting.

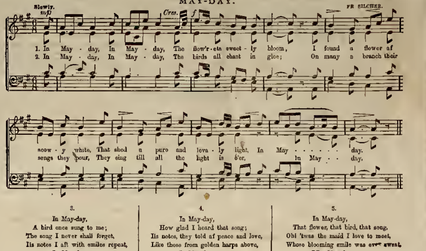
There were a few rackets, but no other fire-works. The whole city glittered with light, but was silent, save the bells. They rang from six in the morning till twelve at night. The whole scene remains in memory, like the enchantment of a dream. The glory and welfare of Italy! theme of the poets. Is not BYRON's prophecy fulfilled?

> "Europe, repentant of her parricide,
> Shall yet redeem thee."

Viva l'Italia. ARNO.

MAY-DAY.

[From Mason's Normal Singer, by permission.


Slowly.
mp
Cres.
f
FR. SILCHER.
1. In May-day, In May-day, The flow'rets sweetly bloom, I found a flower of snowy white, That shed a pure and lovely light, In May - - - - - - day.
2. In May-day, In May-day, The birds all chant in glee; On many a branch their songs they pour, They sing till all the light is o'er, In May - - day.

3.

In May-day,
A bird once sung to me;
The song I never shall forget,
Its notes I oft with smiles repeat,
In May-day.

4.

In May-day,
How glad I heard that song;
Its notes, they told of peace and love,
Like those from golden harps above,
In May-day.

5.

In May-day,
That flower, that bird, that song,
Oh! 'twas the maid I love to meet,
Whose blooming smile was ever sweet,
Like May-day.

* * *

THE ISLAND OF SAN DOMINGO.

THE reports which have been put in circulation relative to the aggressive designs of Spain in the West Indies, and the annexation of San Domingo under the name of a Protectorate, invest the "Dominican Republic" with more than ordinary interest at the present. The following brief history of that island we take from the New York *Evening Post:*

The island which is, next to Cuba, the largest, richest and most important of the West India Islands, has, since its independence, been divided into two portions, Hayti, the former French colony, occupying about two-fifths of its area, and the republic of Dominica, once a Spanish colony, holding the remaining three-fifths. The latter has a population of about 130,000, of whom about one-tenth are whites. It supports an army of 20,000 men, and has a navy consisting of seven small vessels. In 1852 the total exports of this part of the island (chiefly mahogany, ebony and other precious woods,) amounted to one and a half millions, and the imports (in great part from the United States) to a little more.

The Republic of Dominica was a Spanish colony until 1795, when the French obtained possession of the whole island. In 1821 the Spanish colonists declared themselves independent of their mother country. Slavery had been abolished in 1809; and in 1822, receiving encouragement from the colored inhabitants, Boyer, President of Hayti, (the French portion of the island,) overthrew the provisional government at St. Domingo, and made himself master of the whole island. In 1844 (27th February) the fall of Boyer encouraged the Spaniards once more to assert their independence. They proclaimed the Dominican Republic; Santana, their President, defeated the successor of Boyer; and again defeated Soulouque in 1849. He was re-elected President in 1853, Baez being banished for favoring the clerical party.

In 1848 France recognised the Republic, and concluded a treaty of amity, commerce and navigation. Great Britain did the same in 1850, and Denmark has also recognised its independence. In 1854 President Pierce sent out General Cazneau on a secret mission to President Santana. He negotiated a treaty, the secret stipulations of which provided, it is believed, for the cession of the bay of Samana to our government. The treaty was never ratified, and the United States government has never recognised the independence of the Republic.

Since 1854 Baez has once more been President, but was driven out in 1858 by Santana, whose congratulations (in 1859) of President Geffrard, of the new Haytien Republic, led to the hope that at last the French and Spanish portions of the island would live peaceably together.

The Dominican Republic has not nearly the commercial importance of Hayti proper. In 1857–8 the United States exports to the latter amounted to over two and a quarter million dollars, and our imports thence to a nearly equal sum. Since the flight of Soulouque the Haytians have been re-organizing their government, and have held out inducements to free colored people from this country and Canada to remove thither. France, which has acknowledged the independence of Hayti, (in 1825,) has no authority over her former colony, though it is likely that the Spanish government would prefer to have the consent of the Emperor Napoleon before attempting the subjugation of the negro Republic.

St. Domingo has always been a tempting morsel to Spain. The Island is separated from Cuba by only fifty-four miles. It abounds in valuable natural products; and if Spain could succeed in once more enslaving the free blacks, (which is not at all likely,) she would make of St. Domingo such another vast slave plantation as Cuba has become.

* * *

MOORISH PORTERS IN SPAIN.—"With respect to the Moorish porters in Spain," says Capt. C. F. Chase, of Providence, R. I., "I have witnessed the exceedingly large loads they are in the habit of carrying, and have been struck with astonishment at their muscular powers. Others of the laboring class, particularly those who are in the habit of working on board of ships, and called in that country 'stevedores,' are also very powerful men. I have seen two of these men stow off a full cargo of brandy and wine in casks, after it was hoisted on board and lowered into the hold, apparently with as much ease as two American sailors would stow away a cargo of beef and pork. They brought their food on board with them, which consisted of coarse, brown, wheat-bread and grapes."

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., MAY 11, 1861.

THE WAR.

FACTS, SCENES, INCIDENTS, ETC.

Approaches to the Federal Capital.

THE topography of Washington and the country round about is a subject of interest to the people at this time, hence we give the following article from the N. Y. *Post:*

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS.—Few persons in Washington fear an immediate attempt to march troops into the city, no matter how strong the rebel army may be. The fear is of an attempt to shell the city from the surrounding heights. There are several points from which the Capitol might be destroyed, if the rebels could succeed in planting their batteries. It was generally supposed in Washington, by the military authorities, that the Virginians encamped at Alexandria would soon attempt to occupy Arlington Heights, opposite Georgetown. These Heights command Georgetown, the National Observatory, and the President's House. Gen. Scott had made every preparation to occupy Arlington Heights in advance of the enemy, and many persons advocate their immediate occupation, for it was possible that the rebels might, at night, make a forced march towards Washington and plant their batteries before morning.

The provision made against a surprise of this post by Gen. Scott was as follows:—An immense amount of powder and ball, shell and grape was removed from the Navy Yard to Georgetown, together with pieces of ordnance. Arrangements were made for the instant transport of men and munitions of war across the Potomac whenever the scouts, who cover the country for several miles into Virginia, should report an advance of the rebel troops. The excuse given for delaying the occupation of Arlington Heights until after it was certain that the Virginians were marching upon the capital was, that under the exciting circumstances, an invasion of the soil of Virginia by Federal troops would be most injudicious. This, perhaps, is a valid excuse until Washington is strongly reinforced, but not a single moment beyond that time.

THE HEIGHTS TOWARD THE SOUTH.—Southward of Washington, on the Maryland side of the Potomac and a mile from the Navy Yard, is a commanding hill, upon which the Insane Asylum stands. This hill commands the Navy Yard, and it is not improbable that the rebels would cross the Potomac below Fort Washington and march up to this point. On Monday last the government had not taken military possession of this height, though it is within the District.

THE BRIDGES.—There are four bridges which need guarding, all within two miles of the Capital. The first is a mile and a half directly east of the city, and crosses over the eastern border of the Potomac into Maryland; the second crosses the branch at the Navy Yard. The troops coming overland from Annapolis would cross this bridge. The third bridge is called the Long Bridge, and crosses the Potomac into Virginia. It is one mile southwest of the capitol building. At Georgetown there is a stone aqueduct across the river, across which troops might be marched. It would be difficult to destroy this work quickly, and it should be guarded very strictly.

WHERE THE REBEL FORCES CAN BE CONCENTRATED.—There are no hills north of Washington near enough to command the Capital; but it is singular that the Government did not take possession of the Railroad running to Baltimore, and west over the mountains to Harper's Ferry. On Monday week the Virginians might have forwarded five thousand troops from Harper's Ferry and Baltimore into the heart of the city by the railroad, which was in their hands. Arlington Heights are about two miles distant from the President's house; the heights southeast of the Capital, on the Maryland side, are a mile distant from the Navy Yard; Fort Washington is fifteen miles below the Capital; and Alexandria, where the rebel troops are concentrating, is nine miles down the river. A railroad is in the hands of the rebels, running from Alexandria to the Long Bridge, Washington.

Important from Fort Pickens.

BY the arrival of the Atlantic at New York on the 1st inst., we have the gratifying intelligence that Fort Pickens has been strongly reinforced. Officers report that the Atlantic reached Fort Taylor, at Key West, on the 15th ult., where she received additional troops, ammunition, &c., and sailed again for Fort Pickens, arriving off Santa Rosa on the 16th ultimo. She landed reinforcements at Fort Pickens on the night of the 16th, without any accident. The steam frigate Powhatan arrived on the 15th. The Wyandotte, St. Louis, Sabine and the supply ship Brooklyn were there. The steamer Illinois arrived on the 19th, and landed her reinforcements. On returning to Key West, the steamers Mohawk and Crusader were coaling at Government wharf, and Mr. Tift, a secession coal dealer, refused to sell any to the Atlantic. She steamed to Havana, where she coaled, and sailed for New York on the 27th.

The New Orleans *Picayune* of April 17th says:—"We learn by a gentleman from Warrington that the report that Gen. Bragg was constructing works on Santa Rosa Island, near Fort Pickens, was erroneous. On the contrary, *the United States troops were busily engaged in doing so, and, at the time our informant left, had extended the works to a point nearly opposite Warrington.*" The last paragraph discloses the arrival of the Atlantic, with Capt. Meiggs, his sappers and miners, carpenters, and light battery.

The Mobile *Advertiser* of the 23d ult. says "it is going to be the very mischief to run the Lincolnites off Santa Rosa island if they don't want to go. We may and will make Fort Pickens hot for them, but they have plenty of men and can get as many more as Lincoln can send them; when Pickens is rendered untenable, they can entrench themselves beyond the reach of our batteries, if they like, and so keep up their camp as long as they please, or until we leave the mainland to attack them in their stronghold. We cannot starve them out without a naval force superior to that at their command. So we shall have to keep a strong force on hand to watch this nest of impudent fellows right under our noses. The knocking to pieces of Fort Pickens will not be getting rid of them if they have a mind to stay on the island. There is plenty of sand there for batteries, and our reports show that the enemy is using it to fortify his lines.

A gentleman who has been on a business tour through Alabama and Mississippi, leaving Mobile on the 22d ult., arrived at his home (Chicago) on the 28th, and reports that hundreds of men who had gone to Pensacola to take Fort Pickens are returning home [illegible] disgusted, and satisfied that it is impossible [illegible] Confederate States ever to capture Fort Pickens. Large numbers of troops at Pensacola are sick and dying, and in the hospitals, from the effects of fatigue, exposure and hunger. He reports the people of Alabama and Mississippi almost crazy with excitement. The mob spirit is rampant everywhere, rendered daily more desperate in some localities by threatened famine and starvation.

As Fort Pickens seems destined to play an important part in the present war, the inquiries naturally arise: What are its defences? Can it hold out? In answer thereto, we give the following from an exchange:

If Pickens were like Fort Sumter, isolated, surrounded by batteries of heavy cannon and mortars, within easy reach, it would probably have to yield. But this is not the case. Batteries there are enough; but in a very different relation to the fort. Fort Pickens stands at the north end of Santa Rosa Island or tongue. The coast of Pensacola harbor makes a semi-circle around it. On the west is Fort McRae; in front, Barrancas; further to the east, the Navy Yard. Around this semi-circle for two miles there are batteries; but these batteries are more than a mile distant. The harbor of Pensacola is good, admitting the easy access of vessels, so that the fort can be easily reached, and is already reached and reinforced. It is provisioned for a year, and will be fully manned. From these facts, we may draw these conclusions:—First, Fort Pickens cannot in all probability be battered down. Secondly, it can be aided by a powerful squadron of ships, which, with the aid of Pickens, will probably batter down the shore batteries. Land Engineers have doubted this. But history is against them. Lord Nelson did it, and Lord Cochran did it. The most powerful batteries have been silenced by ships. It is true there has been a great change in the kind of cannon used. So there has been in ships; and we doubt whether any more effectual gun has been made than the 32 pounders, and the 48 pound carronades. At any rate, aid can be furnished by the fleet, sufficient to prevent the success of any assault, or bombardment. Thirdly, it follows from this, that if the rebels carry Fort Pickens, it must be by siege; and that requires a long time and great expense of money; and in the meanwhile other things will come to pass; but what probability is there that Pickens can be carried by siege? It can only be done by regular parallels on Santa Rosa; and to do that will require twenty thousand disciplined troops; but the important fact still remains that any parallels and approaches made on the land side, will be enfiladed by the fire of the ships. In a military point of view, it does not seem that Pickens can be easily taken. Its regular siege, by an immense body of force, may be undertaken; and in that case the Government will have ample time to take counter measures, and probably with success.

The Pottsville (Pa.) *Journal* publishes a private letter from a officer on board the United States steamer Wyandotte, now in Pensacola Bay, in which the following paragraph occurs:

"The force down here consists of the frigate Sabine, 50 guns; steam sloop Brooklyn, 22 guns; sloop St. Louis, 20 guns, and last and least in size, but boiling over with spunk and grit, the Wyandotte, 6 guns. Fort Pickens is a very strong bastioned fort, and very advantageously situated. The garrison can repulse seventy times their numbers.

Military and Naval Movements.

ONE of the most important changes in the regulations of the Army and Navy of the United States is now being effected. The signal books must, it is thought, be destroyed, and new ones made out. Southern officers who have been in the Federal service, may have kept some signal books, and may know the chief signals at a glance. Indeed, rumor has it that it was Commodore Cunningham, late Commander-in-Chief of our Mediterranean squadron, who prevented the supplies from reaching Major Anderson, by interpreting his signals to the fleet.

It has been decided to garrison the forts and arsenals in Northern cities. Accordingly, all the neglected fortresses bordering New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and elsewhere, will have troops and artillerists stationed in them. Volunteers will be drafted, when practicable, for the positions, and thus have an opportunity afforded them to be soldiering in soldiers' quarters.

Gen. Scott is about to call on the country for cavalry and artillerists. Ten regiments of infantry are sent from one district, in many cases, but no mounted troops, and no cannoniers. The proportion should be, in an ordinary war, one regiment of horse to five of foot; but our volunteer army seems likely to have twenty-five regiments of foot to one mounted.

Sketch of Gen. Beauregard.

GEN. P. G. TOUTANT BEAUREGARD, the Commander-in-Chief at Charleston, was born on his father's plantation, near New Orleans. He is a descendant of the most aristocratic Southern families. His father was a wealthy and influential Louisiana planter. His mother was of Italian origin, and descended from the ducal Reggio family of Italy. Gen. Beauregard entered the United States Military Academy at West Point, at an early age, where he graduated in 1838, taking the second honors in a class of forty-five graduates, and was appointed to the Corps of Engineers. He was promoted to a First Lieutenancy in June, 1840, and in that capacity served with great distinction during the Mexican war. He was twice brevetted "for gallant and meritorious conduct" in the field, the first time as captain for the battles of Contreras and Churubusco, to date from August 20, 1847; and again as Major for the battle of Chapultepec, to date from the 13th of September of that year. Gen. Beauregard is about forty-three years of age, in the prime of life and vigorous health, erect as a soldier, well made and remarkably active. There is great spirit and determination in his look, and he evidently possesses great muscular power. The great characteristic of the General is perfect method in all his plans. He is regarded one of the ablest officers that ever was in the American army.

Maryland—Gov. Hicks' Message.

The geographical position of Maryland renders her action doubly important at the present juncture, hence the closing paragraphs from Gov. Hicks' message to her Legislature possess a special interest.

> The fate of Maryland, and perhaps of her sister Border Slave States, will undoubtedly be seriously affected by the action of your honorable body. Therefore should every good citizen bend all his energies to the task before us, and therefore should the animosities and bickerings of the past be forgotten, and all strike hands in the holy cause of restoring peace to our State and to our country. I honestly and most earnestly entertain the conviction that the only safety of Maryland lies in preserving a neutral position between our brethren of the North and of the South. We have violated no right of either section. We have been loyal to the Union. The unhappy contest between the two sections has not been commenced or encouraged by us, al[illegible]gh we have suffered from it in part. The imp[illegible] war has not come by any act or any wish of [illegible]. We have done all we could to avert it. We have hoped that Maryland and other Border Slave States, by their conservative position and love for the Union, might have acted as mediators between the extremes of both sections, and thus have prevented the terrible evils of a prolonged civil war.
>
> Entertaining these views, I cannot counsel Maryland to take sides against the General Government until it shall commit outrages on us which would justify us in resisting its authority. As a consequence, I can give no other counsel than that we shall array ourselves for Union and peace, and thus preserve our soil from being polluted with the blood of brethren. Thus, if war must be between the North and South, we may force the contending parties to transfer the field of battle from our soil, so that our lives and property may be secure. It seems to me that, independently of all other considerations, our geographical position forces us to this, unless we are willing to see our State the theatre of a long and bloody civil war, and the consequent utter destruction of every material interest of our people, to say nothing of the blood of brave men and innocent women and children, which will cry out from our soil for vengeance upon us, if we fail to do all that in us lies to avert the impending calamity.
>
> The course I suggest has all the while been the sole ground work of my policy; and but for the excitement prevailing among our people during the past few days, I believe the object I have kept steadily in view during my administration would have been consummated. If it has failed, I have the full consciousness that throughout the whole of my harrassing and painful incumbency of the gubernatorial chair I have labored honestly and faithfully for the peace, the safety, and the interests of Maryland, and of our common country. This consciousness has enabled me to endure patiently all the cruel, unmerited, and heartless attacks that have been made upon my integrity. I have also comfort in the conviction that my policy has been sustained by a large majority of the people, and nothing that has transpired since the recent lamentable occurrence within our State has shaken that conviction.
>
> A momentary frantic excitement took the place of reason and good judgment, and men for the time threw aside all prudent thoughts of the future in the burning desire to avenge what they considered wrongs. I submit my suggestions to your wisdom, and I appeal to you not only as devoted citizens of Maryland, but as husbands and fathers, to allow that prudence and Christian-like temper so honorable to all men to guide your counsels, and I implore you not to be swayed by the passions which seem to be so fully aroused in our midst to do what the generations to come after us will ever deplore.

How the "Southern Heart is Fired."

In our last issue we gave extracts from our Southern exchanges exhibiting the manner in which the masses are deluded in regard to the condition of affairs at the North. The mail of the present week is exceedingly rich in this respect, and we quote the following:

The Mobile *Daily Advertiser*, of the 28th ult., gives us a choice morsel of intelligence. It says:

> "The telegraph makes out the Northern States to be very eager for the fray, and exceedingly liberal in their appropriations of money to sustain Lincoln in his war upon us. Those States will talk of offering more money than they really will, and will offer more than they will ever pay. *They have no money*, are most enormously in debt, and it is all that they can do to *rake and scrape enough to pay interest* on their outstanding bonds. This is true of the finances of *each one of the States* which the telegraph tells us are most liberal in their offers of appropriations. The war kills what was left of their credit abroad, and *they cannot raise money among their citizens as we do*, for the reason that there is *no unity* of patriotic feeling among them, and they do not feel that it is a war of independence to defend homes and liberties, as with us; but a war of aggression, needlessly waged, to which the opposition of the body of conservatives spreads a very general feeling of disinclination. Those States *cannot negotiate at home or abroad.*

The same journal publishes a telegram received by the Confederate States Government, to this effect:

> "Montgomery, April 23.
>
> A reliable dispatch received by the Secretary of State, dated at Alexandria, Virginia, April 22d, says that the Northern troops on the way from Annapolis to Washington were *being cut up between Annapolis and Marlboro'. The conflict is represented as being desperate.* The citizens fought disadvantageously with arms sent them from Harper's Ferry. *The town of Havre de Grace has been destroyed.*"

The Richmond *Examiner*, "upon reliable information," gives publication to this choice piece of nonsense:

> "Abraham Lincoln is ready to run. *He has not passed a night in the White House for two weeks, but goes into the barracks to sleep with his armed hirelings about him.* He does not take his boots off, that he may be ready to run at a moment's warning. Illustrious successor of Washington and Jackson! *The miserable chicken-hearted abolition Hoosier!* To think that such a creature should cause the death of men! His fate gapes to receive him."

A correspondent of the Baltimore *American*, writing from Charleston, tells us what the rebels are going to do with Washington *when* they take it:

> "We will take all the paintings, statues, and articles of historical interest, and adorn Montgomery with them. We will then raze the city, demolish the Capitol, and erect a simple marble slab on the highest hill amid the desolation, upon which shall be inscribed the simple words, '*In memoriam.*'"

The New Orleans *Delta* is rejoiced at the attitude of Baltimore, and the fact that the advance guard of the Virginia army, 5,000 strong, have taken possession of Arlington Heights. It remarks:

> "At the present moment Lincoln has not more than 6,000 troops, of all kinds, in Washington, and this number is utterly powerless for the defense of the place against the overwhelming forces that can be brought into the field by Virginia and Maryland. It will not be long before Lincoln and his Cabinet are either captured by Southern armies, or driven to seek safety in an ignominious nocturnal flight.
>
> The military power of the Government, so far as concerns the regular forces, is completely broken. The army is virtually disbanded, and the navy disorganized.
>
> All communication between Washington and the North is cut off. The Maryland people are bravely contesting every inch of ground. Their efforts have been so successful that no Northern troops have reached Washington since the Massachusetts Regiment was attacked in Baltimore. The Massachusetts men express great surprise at the attack made upon them by the Baltimore people. They say they were induced to believe that they would have a very easy time of it—plenty of fun and no fight. They did not come for a fight, but for a frolic. They are growing very uneasy and restless.
>
> There is, in the midst of all these accumulating difficulties, a visible lack of harmony and cohesiveness in the Administration. Lincoln appears to disregard altogether the counsels of his Cabinet, and to have yielded completely to the control of Jim Lane, of Kansas, Cassius M. Clay, and Frank Blair.
>
> These gentlemen have no hesitation in admitting that the war is to be prosecuted on the part of the North, not for the maintenance of the Union, but for the destruction of slavery. They declare openly that they intend to obliterate State Rights, and establish a grand, strong, Central Government, under control of the North, as a section.
>
> Lord Lyons was to have gone to Richmond to-day, with the intention of conferring with Vice-President Stephens concerning Lincoln's proclamation of a blockade. The Foreign Ministers laugh at the proclamation. The Foreign Ministers now here all sympathize with the South, and think Lincoln and his followers are insane.
>
> In consequence of the martial law anticipated in Washington, and the insecurity felt by capitalists and property holders of the North, specie, and every kind of movable treasure, are rapidly pouring into Virginia and other Southern States on or near the border."

Meeting of the Southern Congress.

The Congress of the Southern Confederate States met in Montgomery, at noon, on the 29th ult. There has been nothing but a brief telegraphic report of the message of Jeff. Davis; but the principal points seem to be as follows:

He announced the ratification of the permanent Constitution of the Confederate States, and that it only remains for an election to be held for the designation of officers to administer the government.

He says, the declaration of war made against this Confederation by Abraham Lincoln, renders it necessary to convene Congress, to devise means to replenish the Treasury and for the defence of the country. He reviews the relations heretofore existing between the States, and the events which have resulted in the present warfare. Referring to the result of the mission of the Commissioners to Washington, he says the crooked paths of diplomacy can scarcely furnish an example so wanting in courtesy, candor, and directness, as was the course of the United States government toward the Commissioners.

Commissioners have been sent to England, France, Prussia, and Belgium, to ask our recognition as a member of the family of nations, and make treaties of amity and commerce.

He recommends the appointment of other diplomatic agents. He says the Confederacy, through Mr. Stephens, has concluded a convention with Virginia, by which Virginia has united her powers and fortunes with the Southern Confederacy.

He says he has satisfactory assurances that other Southern States will soon stake their fortune with ours. He says most of the executive departments are in successful operation. The Post Master General will soon be ready to announce the direction of postal affairs.

In conclusion, he congratulates the Confederacy in the patriotic devotion exhibited by the people of the Confederacy. Men of high political and social position and wealth, are serving in the volunteer ranks. He says the people thus united and resolved, cannot fail of a final success. Our cause is just and holy, and we protest solemnly in the face of mankind, that we desire peace at any sacrifice save that of honor and independence. We seek no conquest, no aggrandizement, no concession from the Free States. All we ask is to be let alone, and that no one shall attempt our subjugation by arms. This we will and must resist to the direst extremity. The moment this pretension is abandoned, the sword will drop from our grasp, and we shall be ready to enter into treaties of amity and commerce mutually beneficial. So long as this pretension is maintained, with a firm reliance on that Divine Power which covers with His protection the just cause, we will endeavor to struggle for our inherent right to freedom with prudence and self-government.

The South in a Quandary.

Certain portions of the Southern Press are beginning to think there has been a slight miscalculation in reference to the number of their friends at the North. The money and men which the Jeff. Davis Confederacy were to receive are forthcoming, but not exactly in the shape which was expected. Instead of being devoted to the interests of the Montgomery Cabal, and the building up of a Cotton Government, "Old Abe" seems to have got all in the *Union* strings. Hear them:

> The Mobile Register finds itself unable to explain the fact of the unexpected unanimity of the people of the North in the support of the Government, upon any other hypothesis than that the whole public mind of the North has "been suddenly seized with one of those *manias* by which Providence sometimes smites an entire people." It confesses its surprise at the concurrent support of the Administration by Douglas, Buchanan, Fillmore, Cass, Governor Sprague, &c.
>
> In addition to its inability to explain the foregoing, the Register expresses its surprise in the following manner:
>
> "Is the Whole North Going Mad?—We yesterday commented upon a dispatch declaring in effect that Stephen A. Douglas had pledged his support to President Lincoln. While we wrote the words of incredulity and surprise with which alone we could comment on such news, the wires were announcing to our New Orleans contemporaries that Ex-President Buchanan participates in the general determination to sustain the Government at Washington. At the same time it is telegraphed from Detroit that Gen. Cass had liberally contributed to a large subscription for the equipment of the Michigan quota of volunteers called out by President Lincoln. Simultaneously, also, it is telegraphed from Buffalo, that Ex-President Fillmore is presiding over a meeting called to aid the United States Government 'in the enforcement of the laws.' It had previously been announced that Governor Sprague, of Rhode Island, just re-elected by a large majority over a Black Republican competitor, had tendered a regiment of troops to aid Lincoln 'in the enforcement of the laws.'
>
> "Here is a representative man of every shade of Northern conservatism. We confess this coincidence and simultaneousness of action on the part of men who are wider apart by their antecedents than even their places of residence, takes us by surprise."
>
> The New Orleans Picayune is also incredulous as to the war preparations of New York. It says:
>
> "We are unwilling to believe the telegraphic reports of the total apostacy of the majority of the citizens of the city of New York, who have ever professed to be the friends of the South, and the oppressors of Black Republicans, as their vote in the late Presidential contest exhibited. We know that there are good men and true there, who are willing to stand by the South to the last. We have been informed by a gentleman lately from that city, that all the telegraphic reports from thence in relation to this apostacy of New York citizens are enormously exaggerated."
>
> The Richmond Examiner publishes the speech of Mr. Fillmore, delivered at Buffalo, and notices the positive position in favor of sustaining the Government, taken by the whole people of the North as one man, and says:
>
> "We are rather disposed to refer the shameful defection to a general cause—the demoralizing tendency of Northern society. Moral courage is a virtue unknown in that region, and consequently not valued. We believe the North has produced no really great man since the days of the Revolution. We do not mean intellectually, but morally *and* intellectually. Their society tends to sharpen the intellect—and they have exhibited some very remarkable specimens of intellectual sharpness. But the truly grand character—grand in all its phases—such as Washington or Marshall, it is utterly impossible for its social *status* to produce. All attempts of that sort must inevitably prove failures and abortions. But for money-getting and money-holding, and for dexterous devices for turning sharp corners, and for passing for something better than they really are, they can beat the world. In this view of the matter, Messrs. Fillmore, Ingersoll & Co., are not free agents. They have been decent, plausible, respectable, fair-weather friends; and for one and all of us, we bid them an eternal adieu!"
>
> The Richmond Whig, in a notice of the general uprising of the North and the united determination of its people to sustain the Federal Government with men and money for a vigorous prosecution of the campaign, closes up thus significantly:
>
> "It rests on the supposition, that the Yankees will be permitted to carry out their plan without hindrance from any quarter—and especially that Jefferson Davis shall not reach the Potomac in sixty days. The happening of any such rash proceedings as this on the part of the impetuous Rebel, it is very frankly confessed, would mar a great many fine schemes. On this point we can, luckily, relieve the fears of the philosopher of the Tribune. *Jeff. Davis has no thought in the world of being on the Potomac in sixty days from this time. According to our reckoning, the banks of the Hudson are not more than thirty days march from Montgomery.*"

Loss of Life at Fort Moultrie.

The report that many lives had been lost at Fort Moultrie by the fire of Fort Sumter, is receiving daily confirmation. The following statement in the N. Y. *Tribune* was derived from a soldier who was drafted into the rebel army:

> "The barbetta guns of Fort Sumter were silenced early in the day, and the round shot from these were most destructive to Fort Moultrie, and caused the greatest loss of life. They were fired with great accuracy, and at times the scene in the fort was terrible. During the siege, between three and four hundred were killed, and a large number were wounded. The killed were collected together in a mass, and at night placed in boxes brought down from Charleston, and taken away to Potter's Field, and interred during the night. Some of the men were horribly mangled, and others were scarcely dead when thrown into the boxes. Blood flowed in streams from these receptacles, and the sight was horrible. The surgeon at the Fort sent for help, and others came down from Charleston. The wounded were removed to the Hospital, where such as have not since died now remain. In order that the truth should not be known in Charleston, the soldiers were charged to say that nobody was hurt, and were threatened with certain death if they disclosed the facts."

Captain David Carson, of the schooner B. D. Pitts, who arrived in New York on the 1st inst., from Charleston, lay at the wharf, near Fort Moultrie, during the bombardment of Fort Sumter. Fortunately, his vessel hailed from a Virginia port, and by uttering secession sentiments he passed without suspicion. The captain states that on Sunday night *sixty dead bodies were carried across his deck to the land*; that both he and his first mate saw and counted them; that on Monday night *forty dead bodies were carried out at one time, and sixty at another.* He states that the rebel soldiers were all sworn to deny any loss of life.

A soldier who had served on Morris Island during the bombardment of Sumter, arrived with Capt. Carson, and he says that at least one hundred and fifty men were killed and wounded at the batteries on Morris Island, by the canister of Maj. Anderson. He had occasion to be at Fort Johnston before he left Charleston, and there he learned that on Sullivan's Island thirty-nine men had been killed,—that a mortar had been blown from Fort Johnston by a shot from Sumter. He had to go to Charleston in a boat with some passengers, and when there embraced the opportunity and stowed himself away in the schooner, and in that way got off. He says that the dead were all taken and boxed and carried away in the night, and buried in Potter's field, where the negroes are buried.

The editor of the Charleston *Courier*, since the evacuation, has visited the various positions occupied by the Secessionists, and though he states that no one was killed, he says "that if Fort Moultrie is ever to be used, the walls must be rebuilt; that holes are knocked therein large enough for windows; that there is not a tenable room in the fort; that everything is torn to pieces, even to the bedding of the soldiers." In concluding, he remarks that "it was a blessing Maj. Anderson had no fool to heat shot with, or the destruction of Fort Moultrie would have been complete." Whose stories shall we believe? When we take into consideration the fact that more than 1,009 men were cooped up in this fortress, it is rather hard work for us to believe "that nobody was hurt."

The North-West Arming.

Everybody is asking,—"What is the great North-west doing?" The best answer we can give is the following extract from the St. Louis Democrat of Wednesday week:

> "A gentleman connected with one of the northern line of packets, which arrived yesterday, handed us a communication, from which we take the following:
>
> "'The whole upper country is aroused, and making preparations to sustain the Government, and all parties are merged into one. The stirring sound of the fife and drum is echoing from shore to shore thro'out the Mississippi Valley. *It is one unanimous recruiting station for the upholding of the laws and defence of the honor of the country.* Large quantities of grain are upon the banks, awaiting shipment to Milwaukee and Chicago. They are afraid to ship to St. Louis.'
>
> "We add a portion of the report of the trip of the steamer Denmark:
>
> "'Tuesday, 16th, at 4 P. M., left St. Paul. River rising slowly. The war news excludes all other topics, and produced a very unfavorable effect upon shipments. Large quantities of grain, destined for St. Louis and the South, have been sent to Milwaukee and Chicago, and other lots are held back for further developments. Shippers fear the secession of Missouri. The consequence of such a step would be suicidal to Missouri, and they wonder that men are so blind as not to foresee that fact, and do their best to keep her in the Union. The falling off in shipments, and derangement in currency, render steamboating a very unprofitable and unpleasant business.'
>
> "We commend the above developments to the consideration of those who forget that there is a North. Let those in favor of secession pause and reflect."

According to a statement in the Cincinnati Enquirer of Wednesday, the Indiana and Ohio troops now mustering into service, are intended for operations in the Western Division of the army, and will not come East. The Enquirer says:

> "A dispatch from Louisville states that one thousand troops are at Cairo, and that four thousand additional are expected soon. We have no reason to doubt the truth of that. We understand that the Indiana troops now at Indianapolis have received orders to march, and their destination is West. We also learn that no more of the Ohio troops will be sent East, and that those now at Columbus will be sent West. From the givings-out, we suppose the object of the gathering at Cairo is to blockade the Mississippi, so as to prevent all boats passing down which shall contain provisions or warlike stores. That will tell seriously on St. Louis, Memphis, and New Orleans."

Affairs at Washington.

Official correspondence of Minister Faulkner, at Paris, to Secretary Seward, relative to M. Thouvenel, French Minister of Foreign Affairs, concerning American affairs, is furnished to the press by the State Department. Mr. Faulkner had an interview April 15 with M. Thouvenel.

Mr. Faulkner, who is a Virginian, presented the Commissioners of Jeff. Davis to the Emperor, who gave them no encouragement. The French Minister of Foreign Affairs said that the United States need not have apprehension of a speedy recognition by France of the Southern Confederacy. Mr. Dallas, our Minister to England, refused to present the Commissioners.

The War Department issued an order creating the military department of Annapolis, under command of Gen. Butler, embracing Annapolis and the railroad to Bladensburg, with 21 miles each side of the track, and including Baltimore.

The Maryland Legislature, in their interview with the President, on the 4th inst., admitted both the right and power of the Government to bring troops through Baltimore, or the State, and to take any measures for the public safety which, in the discretion of the President, might be demanded, either by actual or reasonably apprehended exigencies. They expressed the belief that no immediate effort at secession, or resistance of the federal authority, would be attempted by the Legislature or State authorities, and asked that in this view the State should be spared as long as possible the evils of a military occupation, or a mere revengeful chastisement for former transgressions. The President replied that their suggestions and representations should be considered, but that he should now say no more than that the public interests, and not the spirit of revenge, would actuate his measures.

PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION.

> Whereas, Existing exigencies demand immediate and adequate measures for the protection of the National Constitution and the preservation of the National Union, by the suppression of the insurrectionary combinations, now existing in several States, for opposing the laws of the Union and obstructing the execution thereof, to which end a military force, in addition to that called for by my proclamation of the 15th of April, in the present year, appears to be indispensably necessary,
>
> Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, and Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy thereof, and of the militia of the several States when in actual service, do hereby call into the service of the United States forty-two thousand and thirty-four volunteers, to serve for a period of three years, unless sooner discharged, and to be mustered into the service as infantry and cavalry. The proportions of each arm, and the details of enrollment and organization, will be made known through the Department of War. And I also direct that the regular army of the United States be increased by the addition of eight regiments of infantry, one regiment of cavalry, and one regiment of artillery, making, all together, a maximum aggregate increase of twenty-one thousand seven hundred and fourteen, officers and enlisted men; the details of which increase will also be made known through the Department of War. And I further direct enlistment for not less than one nor more than three years, of eighteen thousand seamen, in addition to the present force, for the naval service of the United States. The details of the enlistment and organization will be made known through the Department of the Navy.
>
> The call for volunteers hereby made, and the direction for the increase of the regular army, and for the enlistment of seamen hereby given, together with the plan of organization adopted for the volunteers and for the regular force hereby authorized, will be submitted to Congress as soon as assembled. In the meantime I earnestly invoke the co-operation of all good citizens in the measure hereby adopted for the effectual suppression of unlawful violence, for the impartial enforcement of Constitutional laws, and for the speediest restoration of peace and order, happiness and prosperity, throughout our country.
>
> In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.
>
> Done at the city of Washington this 3d of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-fifth. Abraham Lincoln.
>
> W. H. Seward, Secretary of State.

Gen. Harney, after being released at Harper's Ferry, proceeded to Washington. There has been much speculation in reference to the position which this officer would assume, but all would seem set at rest by his letter to Col. O. Follen, of St. Louis, in which he declares that he will never serve under any banner than the one he has followed for forty years; that he will continue in the service of the Government which has bestowed its honors upon him, and so long as he has breath will he be its faithful and loyal soldier. He says secession leads to anarchy, and that the secessionists design establishing a military dictatorship, and have made war upon the Government and dishonored its flag; that secession would be utter ruin to Missouri. He implores his fellow citizens that the State may not be seduced to become the instrument of mad ambition of designing men. Although the owner of property in and a resident of Missouri, he feels bound to stand by the Union and remain in its service, and will devote his efforts to the maintenance of the Federal Government and the perpetuation of its blessings to posterity.

Gov. Morgan, of New York, received a communication from the War Department on the 3d inst., expressing obligations for the promptness and dispatch with which troops were sent from New York for the defense of the Capital, but requesting that no more may be forwarded to that point till further orders are received from the Department, all being deemed now safe at Washington.

Knowing the disappointment this will occasion, Gov. Morgan earnestly desires that one or two regiments of the present uniformed force which have already been ordered for Washington, but have not yet left the State, may be received by the National authorities, with whom he has communicated on the subject, but unless the Department should consent, these regiments will have to be discharged.

On application, just made by some of the diplomatic corps at the State Department, the following points were ascertained:

First. Vessels in blockaded ports when the blockade took effect will be allowed a reasonable time to depart.

Second. Vessels bringing emigrants, though they have no notice of the blockade at the time of their departure, will not be allowed to enter the blockaded ports. That class of persons come to the United States chiefly to settle in the upper States of the Mississippi, and it will be better for them to enter an open port and make their way to their destination, than to encounter the dangers and casualties incident to the insurrectionary condition of the Gulf States.

The Diplomatic Corps have now been furnished with copies of the two proclamations of blockade, against which they make no unfriendly manifestations. The blockading force under Capt. Stringham will consist of at least 59 war vessels, accompanied with a sufficient number of steam transports for the accommodation of a land force 20,000 strong. This will be enough to make an efficient blockade of the whole Southern coast into which any vessel drawing six feet of water might enter.

On the 0th inst., Gen. Scott, for the third time, voluntarily took the oath of allegiance to the Constitution and Laws of the United States. His staff here followed his example.

Messengers from Alexandria report that large numbers of people had fled from the city in view of the contemplated attack by the Federal troops. About 400 rebel troops arrived Sunday from the direction of Richmond, but seeing a Federal fleet coming up the Potomac, they escaped toward Harper's Ferry.

A dispatch to the N. Y. Herald, says the Maryland Committee were told by the President that it was not intended by the Government to retaliate for the attack of the Baltimoreans on the Northern troops, but it was determined to assert its right of way through Baltimore at all hazards.

The Secretary of War, in order to accommodate the traveling public, has directed the opening of the military route between Washington and Philadelphia by the way of Annapolis. There will be two daily trains—those from the North leaving Philadelphia at 10.30 A. M. and 11 P. M.

The Rochester Volunteers.

On Friday morning, the 3d inst., Rochester sent forward her first instalment of good and true Union men, and the entire city turned out to bid them a parting God-speed. Never did so dense a crowd line our thoroughfares as on that occasion, and though upward of six hundred of our young men were severing the dearest ties and associations, the pang of separation was tempered by the thought that they were about to do battle for their country. This regiment responded to the call with alacrity, and were the first to offer their services in Western New York. The volunteers are made up as follows:

Capts. Taylor, (Zouaves); Smith, (Rifle Corps); Lewis, (Rifle Corps); Brown, (Rifle Corps); Schoeffel, Williams, Tully, Nolte, Jennings, Davis, Thomas, of Brockport; Adams, of Lyons; Stephan, of Dansville.

The foregoing companies volunteered with the expectation of being attached to the regiment of Prof. Quinby, of the Rochester University, but some of them are doomed to disappointment.

The rules of the service will not permit more than ten companies to be included in one regiment, and here are thirteen—all anxious to be counted in.

We learn that the company officers of the volunteer regiment from this city, now at Elmira, elected field officers as follows: Colonel—Isaac F. Quinby. Lieut. Colonel—Elisha G. Marshall. Major—Oliver L. Terry.

The Colonel and Lieut. Colonel are both graduates of West Point, and have seen service in the Army.

We have not yet ascertained what companies compose the regiment, but as there is a surplus of three companies at Elmira, and two in this city still awaiting orders to march (Capt. Wanzer's and Capt. Baron's,) and large numbers anxious to enlist, the necessary steps are being taken to fill up a second regiment. Our city is destined to be fully represented in the struggle between order and anarchy, and we doubt not her representatives will acquit themselves honorably both as soldiers and men.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Great Britain.—A prospectus has been issued in Liverpool, with influential support, for the organization of a company to run a line of steamers direct from Liverpool to New Orleans. Another company is being formed to run a line to Charleston. The latter starts the first steamer in June.

The House of Commons rejected Berkley's annual motion in favor of the ballot, by 128 majority.

Lord John Russel had said that the proposed conference in regard to the slave trade had not been held, because the United States Government had refused to take part in it.

France.—A French fleet was ordered to be fitted out to convey the French troops home from Syria.

A commercial treaty between France and Belgium is reported to have been signed.

All the mercantile houses in Marseilles had suspended payment. Their liabilities in some cases were very heavy. The suspensions were caused by the Turkish government not providing for its acceptances, and the refusal of the Bank of France to continue its advance.

Italy.—An important debate in the Italian Parliament on the reorganization of the Southern army, continued on the 29th. Count Cavour made various explanations. Garibaldi said he was not satisfied with these declarations, as the prospects were alarming. He insisted, therefore, on the reorganization of the Southern army. The Chambers finally adopted the bill, by a vote of 197 against 97.

The correspondence between Cialdini and Garibaldi had been published. Cialdini reiterated friendship, but objected to Garibaldi's last acts. Garibaldi characteristically defends his position.

Poland.—Affairs at Warsaw were unchanged.

Gortschakoff had issued a proclamation stating that assemblages for political discussion will be tolerated, but order can only be maintained by civil officers with assistance of the military.

Spain.—It is denied that Spain intends to reject the offer of the re-incorporation of Dominica. It is stated that Hayti requests a Spanish protectorate.

Commercial Intelligence.—*Breadstuffs.*—The weather keeps very fine for agricultural operations. Wakefield, Nash & Co. report flour very dull, and the terms easier at 28s@30s6d. Wheat steady, and in fair demand at full prices. Red 11s3d @11s8d; white 12s3d@14s6d. Corn very slack, and offered at 6d decline per quarter, without buyers. Mixed and yellow 35s6d@36s; white 36s@37s. Richardson, Spence & Co call wheat dull, and corn 1s per quarter cheaper, and very depressed.

Provisions.—Beef and pork steady, but without improvement in value

The News Condenser.

— The straits of Mackinaw are open.

— Baltimore money is ten per cent. below par

— Four privateers from Mobile are already authorized.

— Strawberries are selling in Mobile at twenty five cents a quart.

— The city of Buffalo has raised $110,000 for the benefit of volunteers.

— The number of Oriental Christians, so called, is one hundred million.

— The State of Connecticut is out of debt, and owns $400-000 in bank stock.

— Virginia is issuing shinplasters Before secession, her currency was gold.

— Ex Gov. Pond, of Connecticut, died at Milford on Sunday night week, aged 79.

— The extraction of coal in France, in 1857, was 7,000,000, tons from 62 coal fields

— New York has sent an agent to Europe to purchase $500,000 worth of arms.

— Ohio has offered for the war 81,000 volunteers since the President's proclamation.

— Gen. Harney, who was arrested at Harper's Ferry by the Rebels, has been released.

— The ladies of Columbus, Ohio, made 1,200 flannel shirts for the troops in 48 hours.

— Western Virginia is to hold a Union Convention at Wheeling, on the 13th inst.

— The Governor of Ohio declares that no negro companies will be accepted by the State.

— The cultivation of the silk worm has been commenced in Britany with great success.

— There are said to be one hundred men in Liverpool, Eng., who are each worth $5,000,000.

— The Kingdom of Italy has been acknowledged by "The Faithful" sovereign of Portugal.

— The garrison at Fort Monroe numbers 1,000 Massachusetts volunteers and 300 regulars.

— All the physicians of Chicago have offered to attend the families of volunteers free of cost.

— The Government has just purchased twenty thousand straw hats for the use of the troops.

— Gen. Scott is soon to have a grand field review of the troops now in and about Washington

— Ten negroes were arrested at Louisville on Tuesday night week, while engaged in military drill

— The students of Harvard College have formed four volunteer companies—one for each class.

— It took the N. Y. Chamber of Commerce just 20 minutes to raise $22,450—over $1,000 a minute.

— The New Yorkers are subscribing to a splendid gold medal, to be presented to Major Anderson.

— Peter Erben, for more than half a century organist of Trinity Church, New York, died last week

— Fifty four Crimean Veterans have enlisted in the 69th New York Regiment, under Col. Corcoran.

— Prof. Lowe recently made a 1,200 miles balloon journey, from Cincinnati to Charleston, in nine hours!

— In Odessa, newspapers are printed in the Greek, Hebrew, Latin, Russian, French, and German languages

— Advices from Montgomery say that only $12,000,000 of the loan is taken. The soldiers are not paid yet.

— Advices from Victoria say that gold dust is being received from Fraser river at the rate of $10,000 per week.

— The Baltimore prices of provisions and the necessities of life are rapidly going up to the starvation point.

— Rufus Hosmer, lately appointed Consul to Frankfort on-the-Maine, died at Lansing, Mich., on Saturday week.

— In Cochin China the French and Spanish troops have been beating the natives, taking several of their forts.

— The herring fisheries of Norway have produced the last year 700,000 tuns, sold at 4 francs 70 centimes per tun.

— A gentleman in New York is getting up a company composed exclusively of members whose names are *Smith*.

— An old gray-haired man at the West actually colored his hair black, so that he might be accepted as a volunteer.

— Ten car loads of Government arms passed through this city, westward, on Sunday night week, destined for Ohio.

— Three hundred emigrants came out by the North Britain, all bound for places in the neighborhood of Berlin, C. W.

— New Zealand is said to have a climate that is its "elemental guano," making it fertile in spite of its natural soil.

— "A stand of arms" is a complete set of arms for one man, and would include the musket, bayonet, and appurtenances.

— The English troops have given the New Zealanders two more whippings in the field, the latter attacking in each battle.

— Messrs. Handy & Bro., of Cincinnati, have contracted with the Government for supplying the army with 16,000 horses.

— The Government has instructed manager Talcott to rebuild the telegraph lines between Baltimore and Washington.

— Old flint lock muskets, to the number of 3,000, are being modernized at Richmond, by a Philadelphian, for the State of Virginia.

— Some traitors in disguise were caught, the other day, in filling the shells, in one of our navy yards, with sand and saw-dust.

— The Naval Academy at Annapolis is to be closed during the war, and the naval cadets allowed a three months' furlough.

— Land enough for a handsome park has been presented to the town of Lewiston, Me., by the Franklin Manufacturing Company

— San Francisco water is elevated by steam power to a height of one hundred and forty, and three hundred and eight feet.

— A new material for ladies' dresses has come out in Paris, called Epouline, resembling Indian cashmere, but not so expensive.

— The Right Rev. Benjamin Treadwell Onderdonk, Bishop of the diocese of New York, died last week at his residence in that city.

— The New Orleans True Delta of April 20th, has the official announcement that the South West Pass of the Mississippi is closed.

— The French government is proposing some change in the law of debtor and creditor, as regards the right to imprison for debt.

— The government of Spain has projected the introduction into Cuba of 60,000 free negroes, with the approbation of the Cuba authorities.

— Over sixty families have left Covington, Ky., for the North within the past ten days, and others are preparing to follow their example.

— A recruiting office for the navy has been opened in New Bedford, Mass., to afford the trained whalemen an opportunity to serve their country.

— James Tracy, a native of Ireland, residing near Charleston, on refusing to fight for the Rebels, was tied to a fence and received 500 lashes

— The citizens of Western Virginia refuse to go out of the Union, and have called a convention to take measures to cut themselves off from that State.

— Every printer in Cambridge City, Ind., has "gone for a sojer." The publication of the papers has suspended in consequence. Bully for the typoes!

— The venerable Dr. Usher Parsons, who was with Perry at the battle of Lake Erie, has tendered his services to the second R. I. Regiment as surgeon

— At the London Exhibition of the Society of Arts, is a cylinder printing machine, of the size of a pocket book, capable of printing 10,000 impressions per hour.

— Accounts from Liberia to Feb. 20, announce the death of Mrs. Nancy Benson, wife of Hon. Stephen Benson, President of the Republic. She was in her fortieth year

To All Our Readers.

SPECIAL OFFER TO NEW SUBSCRIBERS!

☞ ***Back Numbers of this Volume Free!*** ☜

To all who subscribe for the RURAL NEW-YORKER from May 1st to end of the Year and Volume — eight months — we will, if desired, send the back numbers (from Jan'y 1st) *Free.* This offer (to be continued for a month, and perhaps until July 1st,) will enable many who were unable to subscribe at the beginning of the year, or later, to secure the entire volume at *less than cost of publication.*

☞ POSTAGE STAMPS are taken at par on subscription, and greatly preferred to Western or other uncurrent money.

☞ CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Subscribers wishing the address of their papers changed from one Post-Office to another, must specify the OLD address as well as the NEW to secure compliance with their requests.

Special Notices.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS!

To those who wish to purchase a perfect "COMBINED REAPER AND MOWER," we would say that "BALL'S OHIO MOWER AND REAPER" is manufactured at the Auburn Prison by Messrs. ROSS, DODGE & POMROY, sole proprietors for the State of New York, for the use of these valuable patents. The machine is made of the best materials, and warranted to be a perfect Mower or Reaper, and to cut easily, without clogging, any kind of grain or grass, either wet or dry.

The Mower has a Cast Steel Cutter Bar, 4 feet 4 inches cut, with polished wrought iron guards, plated in the Slot with Cast Steel, and tempered.

The Reaping attachment has a Finger Bar and polished wrought iron guards attached to it, with a Sickle-edged Knife, which, for cutting grain, is far better than the smooth-edge mowing knives generally used. By means of the separate Finger Bar and Sickle, they are enabled to make the Reaper cut either 5 or 6 foot swath, and dispense with the heavy Mowing Bar when reaping.

The Combined Reaper and Mower is delivered to the purchaser for the sum of $150, for a six months' note without interest, or $145 cash. The Mower is $30 less.

The agents for Monroe County are [566-6to

J. W HANNAH, of Clifton, Monroe Co., N. Y.
DANIEL KINGSLEY, of Pittsford, Monroe Co., N. Y.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

RURAL NEW-YORKER OFFICE,
Rochester, May 6, 1861.

THE changes in our market are very limited. Best White Canada Wheat is in a little better demand, and under this impulse has advanced 2 cents per bushel in rates. Roll Butter is declining, owing to the increased quantity offered on sale Tallow has altered somewhat, tried having advanced ½ cent per pound and rough having declined a like amount.

SEEDS—Clover has put on 12½ cents per bushel. Timothy is selling at the rates current last week.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES.

FLOUR AND GRAIN	
Flour, winter wheat	$5,00@6,50
Flour, spring do	5,00@5,00
Flour, buckwheat	0,00@2,00
Meal, Indian	@1,00
Wheat, Genesee	1,10@1,30
Best white Canada	0,00@1,37
Corn, old	00@45c
Corn, new	00@40
Rye, 60 lbs. ℔ bush	60@60
Oats, by weight	23@25
Barley	50@56
Buckwheat	35@40
Beans	85c@$1,15
MEATS.	
Pork, Mess	$17,50@18,00
Pork, clear	20 00@00,00
Pork, cwt	5,00@6,00
Beef, cwt	4,00@6,00
Spring lambs, each	1,50@2,00
Mutton, carcass	5c@6c
Hams, smoked	10@10½
Shoulders	7@7½
Chickens	9@10
Turkeys	10@11
Geese	40@50
Ducks ℔ pair	38@44
DAIRY, &c.	
Butter, roll	12@15
Butter, firkin	12@15
Cheese	9@11
Lard, tried	10@10½
Tallow, rough	5½@ 6
Tallow, tried	8 @ 8½

Eggs, dozen	10@10c
Honey, box	12@14
Candles, box	11@12
Candles, extra	13@15
FRUIT AND ROOTS.	
Apples, bushel	25@38c
Apples, dried, ℔ lb	2@2½
Peaches, dried, ℔ lb	9@10
Cherries, dried	9@10
Plums, dried	8@ 6
Potatoes	35@50
HIDES AND SKINS.	
Slaughter	4 @ 4½
Calf	7 @ 7
Sheep Pelts	00@163c
Lamb Pelts	50@58
SEEDS.	
Clover, bushel	$4 63@5,00
Timothy	2,50@3,00
SUNDRIES.	
Wood, hard	$3,00@5,00
Wood, soft	3,00@3,00
Coal, Lehigh	7,00@7,00
Coal, Scranton	5,75@6,00
Coal, Pittston	5,75@6,00
Coal, Shamokin	5,75@6,00
Coal, Char	10@12½
Salt, bbl	0,00@1,62
Hay, ton	9,00@15,00
Straw, ton	0,00@ 0,00
Wool, ℔ lb	30@50c
Whitefish, half bbl	4,25@4,50
Codfish, ℔ quintal	4,50@5,00
Trout, half bbl	4,00@4,25

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, May 6.—FLOUR—Market dull and heavy for common grades, choice qualities continue steady. Sales at $5,00@5,10 for superfine State, $5,15@5,30 for extra do, $5,00@5,10 for superfine Western, $5,15@5,50 for common to medium extra do, $5,50@6,00 for inferior to good extra round hoop Ohio. Canadian without material change in price Sales at $5,20@7,50.

GRAIN—Wheat, market dull and without material change in prices, with only a limited business doing for export and home consumption, sales at $1,26 delivered for Milwaukee club, $1,70 for handsome white Michigan, $1,35 for inferior white Canada, and $1,31 in store for red Western. Rye quiet at 67@68c. Barley dull and heavy, sales at 60c. Corn, market in favor of the buyer, with only a limited business doing at 67@68c for mixed Western, and 67c for round yellow. Oats dull at 33@35c for State, Western, and Canada.

PROVISIONS—Pork quiet and scarcely so firm; sales at $17,50 for mess, $13,25 for prime. Lard dull and heavy, sales at 9@9½. Butter in fair request at 12@14c for Ohio, and 13@16c for new State. Cheese steady at 4@9½c.

ASHES—The inquiry for both kinds and the supply are limited, sales of 31 bbls, at $5,62½ for Pots and Pearls

HOPS—The market is quiet; last sales at 11@20c,—the latter for choice.

SEEDS—The market is quiet for Clover Seed at 7½@8c. Timothy Seed is selling slowly at $2,50@2,75 ℔ bushel, choice is is held at $3,00

ALBANY, May 6.—FLOUR AND MEAL—The demand for Flour continues pretty active for the supply of the home trade, the river towns, and for shipment East. Very full prices are obtained, the stock being moderate and the receipts light.—

Common to good State	$5,00@5,10
Fancy and extra State	5,25@5,50
Common to good Western	5,30@5,75
Extra Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, &c.	5,30@7,00
Extra Ohio	6,00@7,00
Common Canadian	5,25@5,75
Extra Canadian	5,85@7,25
Fancy Genesee	6,00@6,25
Extra Genesee and city brands	6,25@7,50
Extra Kentucky	6,50@7,00

Corn meal is steady at $1,15½@1,31 ℔ 100 lbs.

GRAIN—Wheat in moderate milling request at steady prices; choice State at $1 26. Corn is wanted, and for Western mixed to arrive by canal at 61c. is asked. A sale of round yellow is reported at 64c, which is the extreme figure. No sales of Barley or Rye reported. Oats, sales State at 33@34c.

SEEDS—Sales medium Clover at 8½@8½c and large 11c.—Timothy dull at $2,75.

FEED.—Sales 10 tuns 36 lb. feed at 90c. ℔ 100 lbs.

BUFFALO, May 6.—FLOUR—The market is steady, the demand being principally confined to the better grades which are scarce, while low varieties are dull and neglected. Sales of $5 for choice extra Wisconsin and Michigan, $5,00@5,25 for extra Indiana and Ohio, $5,50@6,00 for double extras.

GRAIN—Demand moderate and market steady. No sales Saturday afternoon. This morning No 1 Milwaukee club at 95c. Corn, demand fair and market steady, sales new, Saturday afternoon, at 40c. This morning, do. at same, and prime new yellow at 42c. Oats quiet at 23@24c. Barley nominal at 54@55c.—Rye, last sale was at 54c for Illinois.

PROVISIONS—Market dull. Heavy mess pork at $17,00, and light do at $16,00 Shoulders 7@7½c., Plain hams 9@9½c., sugar cured do at 10c, and sacked do. at 10½@11c. Lard quiet at 9½@9¾c. Hamburgh cheese is selling from store at 9½@10½c. as to quality —*Com. Adv*

PHILADELPHIA, May 6.—Flour quiet. Wheat dull, white $1,40@1,60, red $1,30@1,33c. Corn 65@66c.

TORONTO, May 4.—FLOUR—We quote Extra at $5,60@5,75 for ordinary to favorite brands. Double Extra is held firmly at $5 @6,25, and some select brands at $5,50. For other grades the inquiry is restricted, and as the bulk of the stocks are composed of these qualities, the market is not active, although firm in view of the movement in Extras. We quote Fancy at $5@5,25; Superfine at $4 60@4,70, and some is held at $4,75. Oatmeal is in good supply, and is offered at $3 60@3,75.

GRAIN—There has been some movement in fall wheat in quantities on Eastern account, and on the whole the prospect is good for the placing of the winter's accumulations at satisfactory figures. From farmers the deliveries have been only moderate, averaging say 500 bushels per day. Up to Tuesday the demand was steady at last week's quotations, but on that day and since there has been more buoyancy, with an advance in price. For ordinary to good lots $1,14@1,18 was paid, good to prime $1,18@1,23, and for extra prime $1 23 to as high as $1 26 was realized. There was a good deal of competition at below $1,25, but beyond that figure only one or two ventured. Spring wheat has ruled steady at 95c@$1 for good to prime. Barley has been dull with only limited supplies at 50@53c. Brewers will pay the latter freely for a good sample. Peas are without change. With limited deliveries they are steady at 48@50c. per bushel. Oats are not offered freely, and the market is rather more firm at 26@27c per bushel.—*Globe.*

THE CATTLE MARKETS.

ALBANY, May 6.—BEEVES—Market active at the opening at improved prices. The supply is heavy, but in view of the improvement last week and the buoyancy in the New York market, the large number on sale in the yards fails to affect the upward tendency. The average quality of the cattle is good.—There are few or no premiums here, but on the other hand, there are very few of the lowest grade. For the most part they run middling heavy, and are in fair condition for killing. The sales made indicate an improvement in prices equal to about ½c ℔ lb, live weight.

RECEIPTS.—The following is our comparative statement of receipts at this market over the Central Railroad, estimating 16 to the car:

	This week.	Last week.	Cor. week last year.
Cattle	3,744	3,300	3,780
Sheep	1,466	1,754	3,116
Hogs	195		581

PRICES—The market is firm and active at the following prices:

	This week.	Last week.
Premium	5 @5 c	4½@ c
Extra	4½@4¾c	4½@4¾c
First quality	3½@4¼c	3¾@4½c
Second quality	3¼@3½c	3½@3¾
Third quality	2½@3 c	2½@3 c

SHEEP—Supply fair, but there is no demand on New York or Eastern account, and only a light inquiry for our own market. We quote good sheared at 4½@4¾c ℔ lb.; prime heavy-wooled 5@5½c ℔ lb.

HOGS—There is no demand here, and it is understood that the New York pens are overstocked. We quote nominally at 4@4½c for still fed, 4½@4¾c for corn fed, and 5½@6c for stores.

MILCH COWS—In light request. Ten blooded at $42 per head, with the calves by their sides.—*Argus and Atlas*

NEW YORK, May 1.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows:

BEEF CATTLE.	
First quality	$9,00@9,00
Ordinary quality	7,50@8,00
Common quality	6,50@7,00
Inferior quality	6,00@6,50
COWS AND CALVES.	
First quality	$55,00@60,00
Ordinary quality	40,00@50,00
Common quality	30,00@35,00
Inferior quality	25,00@30,00
VEAL CALVES.	
First quality, ℔ lb	6 @6½c
Ordinary quality	4½@5 c
Common quality	4 @4½c
Inferior quality	3 @3½c
SHEEP AND LAMBS.	
Prime quality	$4,50@5,00
Ordinary quality	4,00@4,50
Common quality	3,50@4,00
Inferior quality	2,50@3,25
SWINE.	
First quality	5 @5½c
Other qualities	4 @4½

CAMBRIDGE, May 1.—At market 423 cattle, about 375 beeves and 48 stores, consisting of working oxen, cows, and one, two and three years old.

BEEF CATTLE—Prices, extra, $6,50@7,00, first quality, $6,25@0,00, second quality, $5,50@0,00, third quality, $4,00; ordinary quality, $0,00.

WORKING OXEN—$90, $115@175.

COWS AND CALVES—$25, $30@37

STORES—Yearlings, $0@0, two years old, $12@15; three years old, $17@19.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—2,155 at market. Prices—In lots $1,50@2,00; extra and selections, $2,75@5,00 each.

PELTS—25c@$1,25 each.

TALLOW—6@7c ℔ lb.

HIDES—4½@5c. ℔ lb. CALF SKINS—7½@8c ℔ lb.

VEAL CALVES—$3,00@6.

BRIGHTON, May 2.—At market—950 Beef Cattle, 50 stores, 2,100 Sheep and Lambs, and 1,500 Swine

BEEF CATTLE—Prices, extra, $6,75@0,00; 1st quality, $6,50@0,00, 2d do, $6,00@0,00, 3d do. $0 00@5,00.

WORKING OXEN—$85, $100@120.

MILCH COWS—$45@51, common, $19@20.

VEAL CALVES—$3 00@5,00.

STORES—Yearlings, $0@0, two-years old, $16@17, three years old, $18@19.

HIDES—4½@5c ℔ lb.

CALF SKINS—10@11c ℔ lb.

TALLOW—6½@7c. ℔ lb.

PELTS—50c@$1 25 each.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—$1,50@1,75; extra, $2,00@5.00.

SWINE—Stores, wholesale, 6@7c, retail, 6@8c. Fat Hogs, undressed, still fed, 0c.

TORONTO, May 4.—BEEF—The production of beef in this section of Canada this year greatly exceeds that of any previous period, and very considerable numbers have been exported to New York and Albany markets. Here the demand is moderately active, with liberal supplies. We quote first class cattle, on foot, at $5 ℔ 100 lbs., second class, $4,50@5,00, and inferior at $4,00.

SHEEP are in demand at $5@7 each. Lambs scarce at $2@2.50.

CALVES—Plentiful at $3@5 each.—*Globe.*

THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, May 3.—All grades of domestic Wool, suitable for army and navy clothing, has been in pretty active demand this week, and prices remain about the same as previously noticed. The sales of the week have been 150,000 lbs, fleece ranging from 36@40c, and pulled at 25@44c, as to quality. The transactions in foreign embrace 500 bales Mediterranean and Cape, and 50 ballots Peruvian at various prices, as to quality

American Saxony Fleece, ℔ lb	45@50
American full-blood Merino	41@44
American half-blood and three-fourths Merino	38@40
American Native and one-fourth Merino	32@35
Extra Pulled	38@43
Superfine, Pulled	31@33
No 1, Pulled	23@25
Lamb's, Pulled	25@30
California, extra	00@00
California, fine, unwashed	15@35
California, common do	12@20
Peruvian, washed	25@30
Valparaiso, unwashed	—@—
South American Mes. unwashed	10@21
South American Merino, unwashed	21@23
South American, common washed	13@15
South American Entre Rios, do	13@15
South American, unwashed	8@10
South American Cordova, washed	19@25
Cape Good Hope unwashed	25@28
East India, washed	10@30
African, unwashed	—@—
African, washed	—@—
Smyrna, unwashed	10@18
Smyrna, washed	23@26
Mexican, unwashed	—@—

BOSTON, May 3.—The market for domestic wools for army clothing is in good demand, other kinds are quiet. We notice sales of 20,000 lbs. California and 100 bales of Smyrna on private terms

Saxony and Merino, fine	47@50	Western mixed	20@30
Full blood	44@47	Smyrna, washed	15@26
¾ and ½ blood	36@43	Do unwashed	9@17
Common	30@33	Syrian	10@23
Pulled, extra	40@45	Cape	19@30
Do. Superfine	32@40	Crimea	7@17
Do No. 1	22@32	Buenos Ayres	9@46
Do. No. 2	16@20	Peruvian, washed	26@30

Died.

IN Ogden, N. Y., at the residence of CARTER EVANS, JOHN PULASKI, aged 24 years.

Advertisements.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 52½ cents per line of space. SPECIAL NOTICES, (following reading matter, leaded,) Sixty Cents a Line

☞ Its immense circulation among the Producers and Dealers of the Free States, renders the RURAL NEW-YORKER by far the Best and Cheapest Advertising Medium of its class. This FACT should be borne in mind by all Wholesale Dealers, Manufacturers, &c., who must necessarily depend upon the People of the North for patronage.

I WANT 100 SMART MEN (unemployed,) to sell WAR BOOKS! Sure to sell fast, and large profit given. Address, GEO EDWARD SEARS,
591-2t 181 William Street, New York.

NANSEMOND SWEET POTATO PLANTS of superior quality, as heretofore, packed to go safely long distances. 400, $1, 1 000, $2, 5 000, $9, 10,000, $15 —during May and June. Our plants have given fine satisfaction in the Northern States in years past, and we solicit an extension of patronage ☞ Send stamp for Circular
591-2t O. B. MURRAY, Foster's Crossings, Warren Co., Ohio.

THE EMPIRE WIND MILL, FOR PUMPING, is made entirely of iron, a perfect self-regulator, can be stopped and started at pleasure in the hardest wind, with the wings presenting a knife edge. This mill received the First Premium and Silver Medal at the late State Fair at Elmira. Also Premiums and Diplomas at Onon. Co., Cayuga and Skaneateles Town Fairs in 1859 and 1860. For full particulars inclose stamp to R. W. MILLS & CO.,
Skaneateles, Onondaga Co., N. Y

HOWARD'S NEW MOWER.
PRICE REDUCED FOR 1861.
The Cheapest, most Durable, and Lightest Draft Mower offered for sale. Four sizes—$70, $85 and $100 each. All are warranted. Can give the testimonials of those who have used them, if desired. Send for Circular giving full description
Ketchum's Combined Machine,
Improved, price, as usual, $130. Improvements of guards, shoe with roller, lever with roller, and extras for the KETCHUM Machine, furnished at moderate prices, by giving the number of the Machine for which they are wanted. 591-9t
Address R. L. HOWARD, Buffalo, N. Y

FLORISTS, ATTENTION.—I am now prepared to furnish the best and most select assortment of ENGLISH, FRENCH, and GERMAN ASTERS ever offered in this country. I will send, post-paid, to any address, 10 varieties 20 seeds each, for $1 00
I have also the celebrated Green-centered Helianthus, 30 cts. a packet. J. RAPALJE,
Genesee Seed Store, No 17 So. St. Paul St., Rochester, N. Y

PEAS! Peas! Peas!—Now on hand and for sale at the "GENESEE SEED STORE AND AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE," No. 17 South St. Paul St., Rochester, N Y
60 bushels Irish Marrowfat.
50 " Black Eye do
50 " Missouri do
50 " Early Kents.
150 " Early Washington.
25 " Dwarf Blue Imperial
25 " Champion of England
100 " Canada Creepers, for field sowing

ATTENTION! BEE-KEEPERS.—Kidder's new system of Bee Management, whereby a swarm of Bees will collect from one to three hundred pounds of honey in one season. Bees can be made to swarm any season, or prevented from doing so. Can be prevented from flying to the forests in swarming-time. Bee-robbery easily prevented. Moth millers prevented effectually. Never lose bees by the chill of winter or otherwise.
I will send my new Book Circular free of postage to any Bee-Keeper, if they will send me their name and Post-Office address, containing 32 pages, giving general explanations of the Patent Compound Bee-Hive, contents of Book, &c.
Or, I will send Kidder's Guide to Apiarian Science, a work of 178 pages, free, by mail, on the receipt of 57 cents, in postage stamps, or two books for one dollar, which will give full particulars in any department of Bee-Culture. All orders addressed to [591-tf] K. P. KIDDER, Burlington, Vt.

5,000 Wilson's Albany & Hooker's Seedling Strawberry Vines at $2 per 1,000,—the cheapest yet. JOSEPH CALDWELL,
590-2t Nurseryman, Troy, N. Y.

GENESEE SEED STORE
AND AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE
Has just been removed from Buffalo St. to No 17 South St. Paul St., Rochester, N. Y., where may be found a large assortment of
FIELD, GARDEN AND FLOWER SEEDS,
of the very best varieties ever offered in this market.
Also a full assortment of the best
AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS and MACHINES,
including Reapers and Mowers, Horse Powers and Threshers, Hay, Stalk, and Straw Cutters, Corn Shellers, (both hand and power,) the best Plows, both steel and iron Cultivators, Horse-Hoes, and a great variety of small implements and Tools for
THE FARM AND GARDEN.
All persons wanting either Seeds or Implements will of course call at the New Location of this long and well known Farmers' and Gardeners' Furnishing Establishment. War Prices of Produce will enable farmers to afford the best Seeds and Implements this year, and *Now is the Time* to purchase them at the *lowest rates* J. RAPALJE, Genesee Seed Store and
Ag. Warehouse, No 17 So. St. Paul St., Rochester, N. Y.

THE KEDZIE WATER FILTER.—Twenty years constant use has fully established the reputation of these Filters as possessing every *practical* and *scientific* arrangement for the purposes desired. They are *portable, durable, convenient,* and *cheap.*
Descriptive Circulars sent free. Address
583-4t JAMES TERRY & CO., Rochester, N. Y.

20 PAPERS FLOWER SEED FOR $1.—I will send by mail, post-paid, twenty papers of Choice Flower Seeds to any person sending me One Dollar current funds.
My Seeds are just as good as those advertised at double the price I ask. My Seeds are imported from one of the best seed houses in Europe, and can be relied on as good.
J. RAPALJE, at Genesee Seed Store, Rochester, N. Y

OHIO MOWER and REAPER.
E. BALL'S PATENTS,
WITH FOLDING CUTTER BAR.
A Machine that is a perfect *Mower,* and a perfect *Reaper.* Circulars with full description sent by mail or furnished by agents in each county. ROSS, DODGE & POMROY,
583-15t Manufacturers, at the Auburn Prison, Auburn, N. Y.

RED TOP, Blue Grass & Timothy.
I have just received and now offer for sale
100 bushels prime Timothy Seed.
50 do clean Red Top Seed.
80 do clean Kentucky Blue Grass Seed.
30 do. pure Orchard Grass Seed.
50 do Hungarian Grass Seed.
25 do. Millet Seed.
Also, a full supply of the best Garden and Field Seeds.
J. RAPALJE, at the Genesee Seed Store, Rochester, N. Y.

BUCKEYE MOWER
AND REAPER,
WITH FLEXIBLE FOLDING BAR.
THE ONLY MACHINE WHICH COMBINES ALL THE REQUISITES OF A PERFECT HARVESTER.
Farmers wishing to avoid disappointment, will give their orders early in the season.
☞ Circulars with full description and testimonials forwarded by mail.
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POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK,
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587-7t Near Courtlandt.
MALTBY & ARMITAGE, Agents, Vernon, Oneida Co., N Y
YALE NORTHRUP, Agent, Smyrna, Chenango Co., N. Y
JOSEPH JULIAND, 2d, " Bainbridge, Chenango Co., N Y.
A. P BRAYTON & SON, Agents, Watertown, Jeff Co., N. Y.

6,000 AGENTS WANTED, to sell SIX NEW INVENTIONS—two very recent, and of great value to families; all pay great profits to Agents. Send four stamps and get 80 pages particulars.
586-6t EPHRAIM BROWN, Lowell, Mass.

BOOKS FOR RURALISTS.

THE following works on Agriculture, Horticulture, &c., may be obtained at the Office of the RURAL NEW-YORKER. We can also furnish other books on Rural Affairs issued by American publishers, at the usual retail prices,—and shall add new works as published. ☞ RURAL Agents entitled to premiums, and who are offered a choice of books, can select from this list.

American Farmer's Encyclopedia	$4 00
Allen's Am. Farm Book	1 00
Allen's Diseases of Domestic Animals	75
Allen's Rural Architecture	1 25
Allen on the Grape	1 00
Am. Architect, or Plans for Country Dwellings	6 00
American Florist's Guide	75
Barry's Fruit Garden	1 25
Blake's Farmer at Home	1 25
Boussingault's Rural Economy	1 25
Bright on Grape Culture	50
Browne's Bird Fancier	50
Browne's Poultry Yard	1 00
Do Field Book of Manures	1 25
Bridgeman's Gard. Ass't	1 50
Do. Florist's Guide	60
Do. Kitchen Gardener's Instructor	60
Do Fruit Cult. Manual	60
Breck's Book of Flowers	1 00
Buist's Flower Garden	1 25
Do Family Kitchen Gard	75
Chemical Field Lectures	1 00
Chinese Sugar Cane and Sugar Making	25
Chorlton's Grape Grower's Guide	60
Cobbett's Am Gardener	50
Cottage and Farm Bee-keeper	25
Cole's Am. Fruit Book	50
Do Am Veterinarian	50
Dadd's Modern Horse Doc	1 00
Do. Am. Cattle Doctor	1 00
Do Anatomy and Physiology of the Horse	2 00
Do colored plates	4 00
Dana's Muck Manual	1 00
Do Prize Essay on Manures	25
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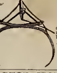

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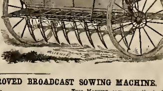

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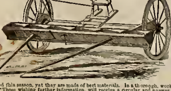

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And her strong arm is nerving to strike with a will,
Till the foe and his boastings are humbled and still!
Here's welcome to wounding, and combat, and scars,
And the glory of death—for the Stripes and the Stars!

From prairie, O, plowman! speed boldly away—
There's seed to be sown in God's furrows to-day—
Row landward, lone fisher! stout woodman, come home!
Let smith leave his anvil and weaver his loom,
And hamlet and city ring loud with the cry,
"For God and our country we'll fight till we die!
Here's welcome to wounding, and combat, and scars,
And the glory of death—for the Stripes and the Stars!"

Invincible Banner! the Flag of the Free!
O, where treads the foot that would falter for thee?
Or the hands to be folded till triumph is won,
And the Eagle looks proud, as of old, to the sun?
Give tears for the parting—a murmur of prayer—
Then Forward! the fame of our standard to share!
With welcome to wounding, and combat, and scars,
And the glory of death—for the Stripes and the Stars!

O, God of our Fathers! this Banner must shine
Where battle is hottest, in warfare divine!
The cannon has thundered, the bugle has blown—
We fear not the summons—we fight not alone!
O, lead us, till wide from the Gulf to the Sea
The land shall be sacred to Freedom and Thee!
With love, for oppression; with blessing, for scars—
One Country—one Banner—the Stripes and the Stars!

The Story-Teller.

[A Correspondent sends us the following Story, requesting its publication in the Rural, without naming the paper in which it originally appeared,—hence we are unable to credit.]

A YOUNG WIFE'S SORROW.

BY T. S. ARTHUR.

"I don't just like the tone of Martha's letters," said Mrs. Barton to her husband one day. Martha was a daughter who had been married for three or four months, and was then living several hundred miles away from the town in which her parents resided.

"Nor do I," was the answer. "If Edward is, in any thing, unkind to her, I have been greatly deceived in him."

"There are peculiarities of character and temperament in every one, that only a close intimacy can make apparent. And Martha has these as well as Edward. It is not improbable that something, unseen before, has revealed itself since marriage, and stands as a source of irritation between them."

Mr. Barton sighed. He was very fond of Martha. She had been a pet with him since childhood, and this separation, in consequence of her marriage, was a great trial. The thought of her being unhappy pained him.

"Suppose," he said, "that we send for her to come home and make us a visit. It is nearly four months since she went away."

"I was going to suggest something different."

"What?"

"A visit to Martha."

"That will be out of the question, at least for me," said Mr. Barton.

"I did not mean," replied Mrs. Barton, smiling, "to include you in the visit."

"Oh, then you propose to take all the pleasure to yourself. Now, it strikes me as a better arrangement to have Martha pay us a visit. It will do her a great deal more good than merely to receive a visit from you. She will get back, for a little while, into her old home, and see father and mother both. And then I will come in for a portion of the enjoyment, which is to be considered."

"I've thought of all that," replied Mrs. Barton, "and yet favor the visit to Martha. The reason is this. If I go there and stay a week or two, I will have an opportunity to see how she and Edward are getting along together. We must live with people, you know, to find out all about them. There may be some little impediments to happiness lying right in their path, which I may help them to pick up and cast aside; some little want of adaptation in the machinery of their lives, which prevents a movement in harmony, that I may show them how to adjust."

"I guess you are right, taking that view of the case," said Mr. Barton.

The visit of Mrs. Barton was made accordingly. After the first brief season of gladness that followed a meeting with her mother had passed, Martha's countenance showed some lines not written there by sweet content. The mother asked no questions, however, in the beginning, calculated to draw Martha out. She wanted a little time for observation. The young husband was bright, cheerful, attentive and fond, as he had appeared to her before the wedding day. But on the second morning after her arrival, she noticed that he did not talk quite so freely as usual at the breakfast table, and had something very much like a cloud over the sunshine of his countenance. Martha's manner was a little constrained, also, and her face a little sober. Once or twice during the meal, Edward exhibited a feeling of annoyance at things not rightly ordered.

Mrs. Barton was already beginning to see the little impediments and obstructions to which she had referred in talking with her husband. But she did not encourage Martha to speak on the subject. She wanted to see more and understand the case better. On the third day, the cause of trouble between Edward and Martha—for a discordant string was really jarring in the harmony of their lives—became more clearly apparent to the mother. The little external restraint which had been assumed at the beginning of her visit by both of the young people, was gradually laid aside, and she saw them in the real life they were living.

The basis of the difficulty lay in the total unfitness of Martha for the position she had assumed—that of housekeeper, we mean. And in consequence, her young husband, in whose ideal of home perfect order had been included, found everything so different from his anticipations, that a graceful acquiescence was impossible.

"I don't know what has come over Edward," said Martha to her mother on the morning of the fourth day, after her husband had left for his place of business. Her eyes were swimming in tears, for Edward had spoken hastily, and with ill nature, at the breakfast table. "He used to be so kind, so gentle, so considerate of my comfort and feelings. But he seems to be growing more impatient and harsh in his manner every day."

"Has the reason of this never occurred to you?" Mrs. Barton's manner was grave.

"I can imagine no reason for the change," replied Martha.

"He is disappointed in something, evidently. He does not find in you all he had expected."

"Mother!" The young wife had a startled look.

"It must be so, Martha, else why should he be different from what he was? He has had an ideal of a wife, and you have failed to reach this ideal."

The face of Martha, which had flushed, became almost pale.

"And I am free to own," continued the mother, "that you fall considerably below my ideal. I do not wonder at Edward's disappointment."

Tears began to fall over the young wife's cheeks.

"I'm sure," she said, sobbing, "that I have been to him all that I knew how to be. If love would draw upon me favors and kindness, he would never look at me, as he does, sometimes, with cold eyes and a clouded face, nor speak, in angry impatience, words that hurt me worse than blows."

"But you have not done for him all that you know how to do," said Mrs. Barton.

"I fail to comprehend you, mother," was replied to this.

"You do not make his home as pleasant as it should be. There seems to be no anticipation of his wants, and no provision against discomfort. Everything is left to your two servants, who do pretty much as they please."

"Why, mother!"

"It is true, my daughter. I have looked on with closely observant eyes, since I have been here; and must say, that I am disappointed in you. In every case that Edward has shown impatience in my presence, the source of annoyance lay in your neglect of a plain household duty. It was so this morning; and so yesterday."

"He was annoyed at the burnt steak this morning," said Martha, in answer. "That wasn't my fault, I am sure. I'm not the cook."

"It is your place to have a competent cook," said Mrs. Barton.

"If I can find one, mother."

"The one you have now is not to be trusted to prepare a meal."

"I know that; but how can I help myself?"

"And knowing that, you never went near the kitchen to see that she did not spoil the steak intended for your husband's breakfast. It might have taken you ten or fifteen minutes to superintend, personally, the preparation of this morning meal, and so made it worthy of being set before your husband; but, instead of this, you sat reading or talking, from the time you were dressed until the bell rang. When we went down, there was no butter on the table; no knife and fork to the dish of meat: no salt; nor any napkin at your husband's plate. The tablecloth was soiled, and you scolded the waiter for not putting on a clean one. The meal opened in disorder, which you might have prevented by a little forethought, and progressed and ended in annoyance and bad feeling. Now, who was to blame for all this?"

"But, mother, you don't expect me to go into the kitchen and cook?" said Martha.

"The captain who undertakes to sail a ship, must know all about navigation. Is it more unreasonable to expect that a woman who takes upon herself the obligations of a wife, should know how to conduct a household? Is a woman less responsible in her position than a man? If so, what moral laws give the distinction? I have not seen them. The captain does not trust the ship wholly to the man at the helm. He takes observations, examines charts, and sees and knows for himself that everything is done at the right time and in the right place. His thought and his will are active and predominant in every part of the ship; for on him rests all the responsibility. And it is so every where in men's work. You ask if I expect you to go into the kitchen and cook? I answer yes, in case there is no one else to prepare your husband's food. If you have an incompetent cook, or one not to be trusted, then it is your duty to make up her deficiencies by a personal attendance in the kitchen just as often and just as long as the case may require. You contracted to do this when you became a wife."

"I don't remember that the subject was even referred to," said Martha, who did not yet see clearly; and who felt that her mother's view of the case actually degraded the wife into a household drudge.

"Was it stipulated," answered Mrs. Barton, "that Edward should engage in business, giving himself up to daily care and work, in order to secure for his wife the comforts of a home? I don't remember that the subject was even referred to. And yet it was as much implied in the act of taking a wife, as the other was implied in the act of assuming the relation that you now hold. Do you suppose for a moment, that he isn't active in every part of his business? That he trusts an incompetent clerk, as you trust an incompetent cook? Thought, purpose, hands are all busy in his work, and busy throughout every day; busy for you as well as for himself. He can't find time for reading during four or five hours of every day; nor time for calls on pleasant friends; no, no. His work would suffer—losses might follow; and comfort and luxury fail for the wife he toils for. But, this wife is too indolent, or too proud to go down into her kitchen and see that his food is made palatable and healthy; to be present in all parts of his household, with taste, order, neatness, economy and cleanliness. I don't wonder that he is disappointed and dissatisfied."

Martha's perceptions were beginning to be a little enlightened. She did not make any reply.

"Let me tell you how I have found it in your badly managed household," resumed the mother. "Perhaps, seeing through my eyes, may help you to a better appreciation of things as they actually are. Twice, since I have been here, there has been no water in my room, and I have had to come down in the morning and get it for myself."

"Oh, mother! That is too bad! To think that Margaret should have been so careless!" The daughter's face crimsoned.

"Now, if you had been a careful housekeeper; or a thoughtful one, you would have visited my chamber to see that all was right there. You would never have left your mother's comfort dependent on the uncertain administration of a servant. Next, the room hasn't been dusted twice since I have been here. My fingers are soiled with everything I touch; and I am sure it hasn't been swept under the bed, or bureau, for a month. But, this only affects your guests—is only so much taken from their comfort. Let us look to some things that involve the comfort of your husband; for these are of the highest consideration. You asked him, yesterday morning, to get you some pink-lined envelopes. He brought them at dinner time. He asked you to darn a rent in a black alpaca coat, so that he could wear it. Did you do as he requested? No, you read, and toyed with fine needlework all the morning, but never touched the coat; and when he asked for it, what reply did you make? Oh, you hated darning above all things! and told him he'd better direct his tailor to send for it. The day had become unusually warm, and he had to go out, after dinner, wearing a thick cloth coat, just because you had almost wilfully neglected to perform so light a service for your husband. Do you imagine that he never thought of your failure to do for him what he had asked? That he didn't feel your indifference to his comfort? Your kiss, depend upon it, Martha, touched his lips coldly; and your loving words, if any were spoken, were as sounding brass and tinkling cymbal in his ears. He looked past all lip affirmations, and saw the failure in deed.

"And failure in deed seems to be the rule under your administration of his household, instead of the exception. Most especially is this the case in what appertains to the dining-room and kitchen. The meals are always badly cooked and badly served. The slovenliness with which Margaret sets the table is a disgrace to herself and a standing rebuke to her mistress. I havn't seen a really clean dish—as I regard cleanliness—since I have been here. Nor a clean knife or fork. Your cruet stand is offensive to the eye. There is a smeared mustard bottle, with a smeared spoon—a catsup bottle with half an inch of tomato catsup at the bottom, and an oil bottle empty. Pepper and vinegar bottles I will not describe. The cruet stand itself is as dark as lead; and the napkin rings and spoons not much better."

"Pray, stop, mother!" said Martha, interposing, with a face rather nearer to scarlet than white.

"No; I must say a word or two further. Can such things be, and escape your husband's observation? Can such things be, and not prove a daily offence and annoyance to him? Can such things be, and not irritate him, at times, into unkindness? He would be more than mortal, my child, were he temper-proof against assaults upon good-nature, like these."

Martha was not a fool—though there are too many in her position, we are sorry to say, to whom the word most significantly applies. She saw, through her mother's clearer vision, the blindness in which she had been, and the folly of her defective household administration; saw that, in holding herself above domestic duties and manipulations, she was governed more by pride and indolence than a just regard for wifely or womanly dignity; saw that, to hold fast her husband's love, she must do something more for him than offer loving words; for, life being real and earnest, demands earnest work from all—from the delicate wife as well as from the more enduring husband.

On the next morning, as Edward lifted his cup to his lips, he said, with a smile of pleasure:

"What fine coffee, Martha! I don't know when I have tasted anything so delicious. Your handiwork, I infer?"

And Edward looked from his wife to her mother.

"No," replied Mrs. Barton; "it is none of my handiwork."

"But it's mine," said the young wife, who could not keep back the acknowledgment—her pleasure in seeing her husband's pleasure was so great.

"Yours?" Edward set down his cup, and looked across the table in real surprise.

"Yes, mine. I made the coffee this morning."

"You did? Well, as I said, it is delicious! I wouldn't give this cup of coffee for all the stuff that has been made in the house since we entered it."

The steak was praised next.

"Did you cook this also?" asked the husband.

"I superintended the work," was answered.

"It is only necessary for some people to look at things, and they will come all right," said Edward, "and I shouldn't wonder, Martha, if you belonged to the number."

There was a compliment and a reproof in the sentence, and both were felt.

"Do I need to say another word, my daughter?" said Mrs. Barton, when she was alone with Martha again.

"I think not, mother," was answered. "Since our talk yesterday I have been looking at my place, as a young wife, from a new stand-point, and I find that I have not understood my duties. But they are very plain now; and I shall not need another reminder. Young girls fall into some strange notions about a wife's condition. They think of it as something more ornamental than useful; as invested with more queenly dignity than a homely administration of service in the household. She is to be loved, and petted, and cared for with untiring devotion and tenderness; but caring for her husband, in the unattractive uses of a family, in the kitchen, if need be, does not enter some imaginations as a thing at all included in the relation of husband and wife."

"And coldness, irritation, ill-nature, and too often alienations, are the consequence," said Mrs. Barton. "You felt a change in your husband. Did not the cause present itself?"

"Not until you pointed it out to me."

"Can it be possible that you were so blind, my daughter?"

"I was just so blind, mother!"

"Do you wonder that Edward was annoyed, at times?"

"I wonder that he had so much forbearance," was the reply. "I wonder that he did not speak out plainly, and tell me my duty."

"You might not have understood him," said Mrs. Barton. "He could not have said all that I have said. There would have been the appearance of a selfish regard for his own comfort. Young wives do not always understand a husband's reproving words, which are more apt to blind than to enlighten; for they are usually spoken under the impulses of chafed feelings. It is better, therefore, that I should have helped you to see clearly in a matter involving so many consequences."

The Young Ruralist.

DISADVANTAGES OF THE FARMER.

Are there any? queries some one. The comforts, pleasures, and privileges of the farmer are so much extolled in our day, as well to create doubt whether there be a shady side to his life. But there is! We cannot get much good in this world without some bad with it, much sweet without the bitter, or many advantages without some disadvantages also, and it is as true of farm-life as of any other. Though fluent writers of the city say so much about the enjoyments of a life on the farm, and pretend to envy the farmer, yet there are some things that they do not say or envy; else why do they not adopt such a desirable calling, or bring up their sons to follow it?

Farmers, unlike those of other professions, necessarily live apart and more or less secluded from each other, and from mankind generally; consequently social privileges are enjoyed to but a limited extent. This gives rise to a dread of going into society. It makes the boys and girls awkward and bashful,—to lack the ease and assurance which contact with the world gives. But few of our country youths can sit down and carry on a sober, intelligent conversation, for any length of time. Any one can see this who has ever attended a young folks evening party in the country, where the time is spent in playing foolish games.

Take the farmer's family at home. Suppose a carriage with friends from the town is seen approaching. The children scamper, like a flock of sheep, for the garret or woodhouse. The mother glances down at her dress, and takes a look at herself in the glass, and hustles around nervous and fidgety. The paternal head thinks up about the weather, so as to have something to talk about.

Well! The visitors arrive, and are hustled off to the parlor, and the mother betakes herself to the kitchen till mealtime, leaving the company to take care of themselves as best they can without her. When the meal is ready, the children appear, but it is not till after it is finished that the ice is thoroughly broken and a social feeling prevails.

Now, this picture is not overdrawn, but has many realities. It goes even further in some particulars. Some may have shivering recollections, as the writer has, of having spent an hour in a cold garret, looking over old papers, simply because an Irish pedlar happened to call. Then again it is not so bad. There are ladies in farm-houses that can carry themselves with as much ease and grace, and can entertain a company as well as their neighbors of the city, who are sometimes so stiff in their silks and satins as to suggest the idea of a darning-needle stuck in a board.

This is one disadvantage which the farmer and his family labor under. There are others: They often live at a considerable distance from the church and school-house, and thus are liable to neglect the education of the mind and soul. Crops of late are very uncertain, the weather, which affects the farmer so much, is often fickle, and, to cap the whole, it requires the closest management to make his labor remunerative. But why dwell on the dark side; it is only made darker by so doing. The other side is enough brighter to more than compensate. All that is said about the pleasures of farm-life is true, and as for the writer,

A farmer's life is the life for me,
I own I love it dearly.

Livonia, N. Y., 1861. C.

◆

Preserving Birds, &c.—Would the gentleman who so kindly furnished the readers of the Rural with such good hints in regard to stuffing birds, &c., now give some information where we can get some colored glass eyes for large birds, as owls, &c.? We have tried and cannot succeed in making them.

Also, what is the process to preserve snakes, worms, fish, &c., &c., in spirits, and what kind of spirits is used. If he would, it would be kindly received.—H. D. Stearns, *Waddington, N. Y.*, 1861.

FUN, FACT, AND FANCY.

A young lady, when told to exercise for health, said she would jump at an offer, and run her own risk.

The papers are bragging of an invention by which hides can be tanned in five minutes. Our schoolmaster used to do it occasionally in two.

Courting is an irregular, active, transitive verb, indicative mood, present tense, third person, singular number, and agrees with all the girls—don't it?"

When Socrates was asked why he had built for himself so small a house, he replied, "Small as it is, I wish I could fill it with friends."

"I think I have seen you before, sir; are you not Owen Smith?" "Oh, yes, I'm owin' Smith, and owin' Jones, and owin' Brown, and owin' everybody.'

How many a neglected, high-souled son of genius, sits down daily to the task of consoling and mending human hearts while his own is breaking.

The only cap of liberty, since in it men one-third of their lives visit the land of sleep—the only land where all men are equal—the veritable cap of liberty, is the night-cap.—*Jerrold.*

Some tasteful individual very correctly remarks that the best lip salve in creation is a kiss; the remedy should be used with great care, however, as it is apt to bring on an *affection of the heart.*

Grief murmurs; anger roars; impatience frets; but happiness, like a calm river, flows on in quiet sunlight, without a ripple or a fall to mark the rushing on of time toward eternity.

Two passengers were conversing in a railway carriage about music. One gentleman asked the other, who appeared rather simple, "Do you know the Barber of Seville?" "No," the latter replied, "I always shave myself."

When you find a person a little better than his word, a little more liberal than his promise, a little more than borne out in his statement by his facts, a little larger in deed than in speech, you recognize a kind of eloquence in that person's utterance, not laid down in Blair or Campbell.

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker

MISCELLANEOUS ENIGMA.

I am composed of 14 letters.
My 11, 10, 9, 7, 6, 8 is a little insect.
My 12, 13, 6 is what no boy should become.
My 5, 13, 12, 10 is a beautiful flower.
My 9, 4, 4, 1 is a wild animal
My 8, 4, 9 is a nickname.
My 14, 2, 12, 4 is a part of the body.
My 3, 7, 5, 3, 10, 11 is the name of a trade.
My whole is the name of one now occupying a prominent position among our people.

Watertown, N. Y., 1861. Fred. S. Camp.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

◆

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS.

My 1st is a kind of bird and a color.
My 2d is the head of a plant and superficial luster.
My 3d is a small quadruped and a girl's name.
My 4th is used in games, an article, and a pronoun
My 5th is a kind of berry and a tree.
My 6th is a boy's name, a preposition, and public rates.
My 7th is a ruler and social entertainment.
My 8th is a girl's name, an article, and an adverb.
My 9th is a country and a color.
My 10th is a governess and a kind of flower.
My 11th is loftiness of air, a preposition, and an empire.
My 12th is falling vapor and any vegetable production.

Genoa, N. Y., 1861. H. F G.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

◆

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

A RIDDLE.

From a river take a letter, and a number will appear;
From this number take two letters, and a woman will be here.
Pray tell what river this can be,
And thus unfold the mystery.

Windham, Ohio, 1861. Milton J. Snow.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

◆

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker

ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

Three men, A, B, and C, agree to dig a ditch for $24.80. A and B calculate that they can do four-fifths of the labor; A and C that they can do two-thirds; and B and C that they can do three-fifths. How much should each receive according to the estimates?

Gidley's Station, Mich., 1861. Wm. H. Mason.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

◆

AN EASY LESSON IN CHEMISTRY.

Some Water and Oil
One day had a broil,
As down in a glass they were dropping,
And would not unite,
But continued to fight,
Without any prospect of stopping.

Some Pearlash o'erheard—
As quick as a word,
He jumped in the midst of the clashing,
When all three agreed,
And united with speed,
And soap was created for washing.

◆

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 589.

Answer to Geographical Enigma:—An hour in the morning is worth two in the afternoon.

Answer to Magic Square Puzzle:

3	16	9	22	15
20	8	21	14	2
7	25	13	1	19
24	12	5	18	6
11	4	17	10	23

Answer to Mathematical Problem:—D A = 9,471, D B = 10,863, D C = 16,848 yards.

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A C A R D.

☞ THE AMERICAN WATCH COMPANY, of Waltham, Mass., beg to call the attention of the public to the following emphatic recommendation of Waltham Watches, by the leading practical Watchmakers and Jewelers throughout the United States. The entire list of signatures to it is quite too long for publication in one advertisement, but the names presented will be recognized by those acquainted with the Trade as being in the highest degree respectable and influential. At their establishments may always be found the genuine Watches of the Company's manufacture, in great variety.

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